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Monday,
19th September, 1955

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA

Monday, 19th September 1955

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Survey Of Railway Lines

*1870. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi** : Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether the Survey of the following lines has been completed :

(i) Ernakulam-Quilon and

(ii) Mangalore-Hassan ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan) : (i) Survey work has been completed and the line is under construction.

(ii) Field work has been completed and the reports are expected to be received by about December 1955.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi : May I know what is the total mileage of the railway lines proposed to be constructed ?

Mr. Speaker : Does he want for both the lines or does he want for each separately ?

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: For number one.

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: The length of the proposed railway line from Ernakulam to Quilon is 96·55 miles. The length of the other line is 108 and odd miles.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: What is the estimated cost of this proposed construction ?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan : The estimated cost of the Ernakulam-Quilon line is Rs. 5·69 crores. In respect of the other line, estimates have been called for and we are hoping that they will be received soon.

Shri Basappa : With regard to the Hassan-Mangalore railway line, may I know whether any decision has been taken as to whether the survey should proceed *via* Mudagere or whether it should proceed along Belur and Halbed ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) : That is a different alignment which the hon. Member is mentioning. This was for Mangalore-Hassan. The other line is for Shaklaspur to Kadur *via* Chikmagalur and other places. Even there, there are alignments, one *via* Belur and the other *via* Mudagere. We have asked a survey to be undertaken for both the lines.

Food and Agricultural Organisation

*1871. **Shri Jhulan Sinha** : Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state :

(a) the nature and extent of technical assistance received by India during 1953-54 as a result of the various agreements executed between the Government of India and the Food and Agriculture Organisation; and

(b) the expenditure incurred by Government in the discharge of its functions under these agreements during the above period ?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh) : (a) The Government of India have received technical assistance from the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations under its Expanded Technical Assistance Programme in the shape of fellowships, experts, equipment and holding of International Training Centres in India A statement showing the extent of assistance received is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 2.]

(b) The approximate expenditure incurred by the Government of India during the above period comes to about Rs. 1,82,000.

Shri Jhulan Sinha : May I know if this total expenditure includes the amount paid by India as contribution to that organisation ?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : No.

Shri Jhulan Sinha : May I know the exact contribution made by India?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : I do not remember the exact figure.

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : क्या बाढ़-ग्रस्त क्षेत्रों के लिये भी एफ० ए० ओ० ने कोई सहायता पहुंचायी है, यदि पहुंचायी तो क्या है ?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : I do not think so.

Dr. Rama Rao : Of these experts how many are still in India now, and in which lines are they helping us ?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : There is a large number. It will be impossible.

Mr. Speaker : He wants to know the number of experts in India, not the names ?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : About seventeen, subject to correction.

गेहूं का चोकर

*१८७२. **श्री विभूति मिश्र :** क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने गेहूं के चोकर को निर्यात करने के लिये अनुमति दे दी है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो कितनी मात्रा के निर्यात करने की अनुमति दी है ;

(ग) किन किन देशों को वह निर्यात की जायेगी ; और

(घ) क्या उससे देश में मवेशियों के चारे की पूर्ति पर प्रभाव पड़ेगा ?

खाद्य और कृषि उपमंत्री (श्री एम० वी० कृष्णप्पा) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) चालू वर्ष में सितम्बर, १९५५ के अन्त तक ३७,५०० टन के निर्यात की मंजूरी दी गई है ।

(ग) उन सभी स्थानों को जहां निर्यात पर रोक नहीं है सिवाय पुर्तगाल सत्ता के आधीन स्थानों के जो भारत में हैं ।

(घ) कुछ ज्यादा नहीं ।

श्री विभूति मिश्र : क्या सरकार को पता है कि गांवों में इस गेहूं के चोकर को अधिकतर गरीब खाते हैं और मवेशियों के खिलाने के यह काम आता है, और आजकल तो मवेशियों के लिये और गरीबों के लिये कोई ऐसा खाद्य पदार्थ नहीं है जो इसको रिप्लेस कर सके ? ऐसी स्थिति में तथा सरकार यह विचार करती है कि इसका निर्यात न किया जाये ।

श्री एम० वी० कृष्णप्पा : जो व्हीट का ब्रेन गांवों में पैदा होता है उसको हम बाहर नहीं भेजते । जो व्हीट ब्रेन रोलर फ्लोर मिल्स में पैदा होता है उसको हम बाहर भेजते हैं ।

श्री विभूति मिश्र : क्या सरकार को पता है कि जहां जहां आटा पीसने के कारखाने हैं वहां से गरीब लोग और खास कर बनिये जो घोड़े रखते हैं गेहूं का चोकर ले आते हैं । क्या इसकी बाहर भेजने से उनको नुक्सान नहीं होगा ।

Shri M. V. Krishnappa : In 1953 the price of wheat bran was Rs. 11 per maund ; and when it came down to Rs. 4 in 1955 we had to give permission for export of some bran.

Shri Sarangadhar Das : In view of the fact that wheat bran is being exported to countries that use wheat products for their food and where they have plenty of bran and yet they are importing it for feeding their cattle and the cattle manure goes bach to the soil, will Government consider putting a ban on the export whether the price is high or low so that the plant food material will remain here and the cattle will be nourished ?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain) : The House would be aware that Government is giving support to the price of wheat and therefore if we allow the price of wheat products to go too low we will have to give further support. The quantity of wheat bran, rice bran and other concentrates has recently very much increased, and the little quantity which we have allowed to be exported does not by any means appreciably affect the internal consumption.

Settlement of Landless Labourers

*1874. **Shri K. P. Sinha :** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have abandoned the scheme for settling 1,000 landless labourers over the Sultanpore Farm; and

(b) the number of landless labourers already settled over the lands ?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh) : (a) No, Sir. The scheme has been modified so as to provide for the settlement of 500 families of landless labourers as against 1,000 families contemplated in the original scheme.

(b) One hundred.

Shri K. P. Sinha : May I know the per acre yield of these lands last year ?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : I do not think it arises out of the question. I have not got the figures, but the yields have been rather low.

Shri K. P. Sinha : May I know if these lands have become fully developed or something still required to be developed ?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : They were tractorised and are in a fit condition to be sown.

पंडित सी० एन० मालवीय : यह फार्म १९५३ में ऐसटेबिलिश किया गया था । उस वक्त इसको पूरा करने का कितने का एस्टीमेट था ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : इस पर लाखों रुपया खर्च होने वाला था ।

पंडित सी० एन० मालवीय : क्या यह सही है कि इस फार्म में सन् १९५४ में २७०० एकड़ भूमि में पैडी बोया गया जिसमें से सिर्फ १५० एकड़ में पैडी पैदा हुआ और खर्चा पर एकड़ १५० रुपया आया, जब कि आमदनी मुश्किल से २० रुपया प्रति एकड़ हुई । अगर यह सही है तो इस नुकसान का जिम्मेदार कौन है ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : इस फार्म के वर्किंग में हमको बहुत मुसीबत हुई थी और जो मैम्बर साहब ने ब्यान किया शायद वह सही है । वहां पर जो पानी का इन्तिजाम हम करना चाहते थे वह नहीं हो पाया, उस कारण से और दूसरे कारणों से उस फ़ार्म के वर्किंग में बहुत दिक्कत पेश आयी थी । इसी वजह से फसल कम हुई ।

पंडित सी० एन० मालवीय : क्या यह सही है कि बारना का बांध बन जाने के बाद करीब चार हजार एकड़ भूमि डूब जायेगी, और क्या इस वजह से गवर्नमेंट सोचती है कि इस स्कीम को दूसरा रूप दे दिया जाये ?

खाद्य और कृषि मंत्री (श्री ए० पी० जैन) : इस स्कीम को तो दूसरा रूप दे दिया गया है । पहले यहां पर १००० आदमियों को बसाने की तजवीज थी, लेकिन अब ५०० आदमियों को ही बसाने की तजवीज है । पहले वे बहुत लम्बे अर्से में बसने वाले थे लेकिन अब उनको जल्दी बसा दिया जायेगा और इस बात का भी लिहाज रखा गया है कि जो इलाका डूबेगा उसका इस स्कीम पर कोई असर न पड़े ।

Forced Landing

*1875. **Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad :** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of occasions when the planes of the Indian Airlines had to make forced landings in the year 1955 so far ; and

(b) whether all such cases were inquired into by Government ?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) : (a) 10 (upto 31st August, 1955).

(b) Yes, Sir.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad : What was the total damage to property or to human life, if there had been any, due to these forced landings ?

Shri Raj Bahadur : Forced landing does not come within the definition of an accident. As a matter of fact, forced landing has been defined as an un-premeditated landing at a place other than the place of departure. As such, the question of damage or loss to property or to life does not arise.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad : I also know what is forced landing. But I want to know whether there was any damage caused to the aircraft as a result of the forced landing.

Shri Raj Bahadur : My answer was clear ; no damage was caused.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad : What were the reasons—as have come out of the investigations—of these forced landings, whether they were due to failure of the human part or the machinery part or due to weather ?

Shri Raj Bahadur : The question of the failure of human part does not arise.

Mr. Speaker : Are these forced landings classed as accidents, major or minor; are there any investigations made of these forced landings ?

Shri Raj Bahadur : For the sake of efficiency of maintenance investigations are made in these cases ?

Shri Joachim Alva: Is it true that the pilots of the Indian Airlines are not supplied with the guide of instructions and the Manual of route map which is supplied to the Air India International pilots and by that they are very seriously handicapped ?

Shri Raj Bahadur : If the hon. Member refers to what is known as the cockpit check list, it is definitely supplied and it is insisted that the instructions with regard to the check lists are followed strictly.

Use of Tractors in River Valley Projects

***1876. Shri Sivamurthi Swami :** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state :

(a) whether any batch of tractors of the C.T.O. are working in any River Valley Project ?

(b) if so, the acreage of land reclaimed and made irrigable in these areas ; and

(c) the amount charged per acre in such areas ?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh) : (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Shri Sivamurthi Swami : May I know whether it is under the contemplation of the Government to reserve some units of the C.T.O. to reclaim the lands and make them irrigable ?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : So far as the Second Five Year Plan is concerned, we are contemplating that some of the tractors may be used for contour binding, making furrows, etc.

Shri Sivamurthi Swami : May I know whether the Government of Hyderabad have requested the Centre to send some units of the C.T.O. to reclaim lands under the Tungabhadra project on reduced rates and, if so, what is the reaction of the Centre ?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : I am not aware of this ; I would like to have notice.

Crimes on Railways

***1877. Pandit D. N. Tiwary :** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in March 1955, an armed dacoity was committed in the Riga station on the North-Eastern Railway;

(b) whether the Station Master was killed and property worth Rupees 10,000 was looted ; and

(c) whether the culprits were apprehended ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan) : (a) Yes ; but in the quarters of the Station Master and not the railway station itself.

(b) The Station Master succumbed to his injuries on the way to the hospital.

The actual loss of property is not yet fully known ; but it is reported that Rs. 274/ and a winter uniform belonging to the Station Master were taken away by the dacoits.

(c) Five persons have been arrested.

पंडित डी० एन० तिवारी : उस केस में क्या फैसला हुआ है ।

श्री शाहनवाज खां : यह केस अभी पुलिस के जेर तफतीश है ।

पंडित डी० एन० तिवारी : बहुत से रेलवे स्टेशन ऐसे हैं जो गांवों के करीब नहीं हैं और जहां कि अक्सर ऐसे वाक्यात होते हैं, तो क्या गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से कोई ऐसा पुलिस का इन्तजाम किया जायेगा कि ऐसी लूटमार न हों ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन मंत्री (श्री एल० बी० शास्त्री) : ऐसे लूटमार के वाकयात अक्सर नहीं होते, कभी कभी होते हैं। दूसरी बात यह है कि हर एक स्टेशन पर पुलिस का इन्तजाम रखना मुमकिन नहीं है। स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स भी इतना इन्तजाम नहीं कर सकतीं। अलबत्ता जहां इस तरह का कोई अन्देशा ज्यादा मालूम पड़ता है, वहां हम उस वक्त के लिये कोई इन्तजाम जरुर कर सकते हैं।

पंडित डी० एन० तिवारी : मेरे कहने का तात्पर्य यह था कि ऐसे स्टेशन जो गांवों के करीब न हों, ऐसे बहुत से नहीं हैं, केवल थोड़े से ऐसे स्टेशन हैं जो गांवों के करीब नहीं है, और जहां बराबर ऐसा अन्देशा रहता है, तो क्या वहां स्टेट गवर्नमेंट की रिक्वेस्ट करके कोई प्रोटेक्शन का इंतजाम किया जा सकता है या नहीं ?

श्री एल० बी० शास्त्री : माननीय सदस्य शायद केवल अपनी रेलवे की बात सोच रहे हैं। लेकिन मैं उनको बतलाऊं कि ऐसे स्टेशन जो गांव के करीब न हों, दूसरी रेलवेज पर भी बहुत हैं और काफी उन की तादाद है, इसलिये उतने बड़े पैमाने पर तो इन्तजाम नहीं हो सकता, मगर हमने कई जगह पर खास तौर से ऐसा इन्तजाम किया है जहां के स्टेशन मास्टर्स वगैरह ने यह कहा कि वहां अन्देशा है या खतरा है।

Shri B. S. Murthy : May I know how many of these five persons are railway employees ?

Shri L. B. Shastri : I think none of them is a railway employee.

Traffic Laws

*1878. **Shri Gidwani** : Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the speech of the Consulting Engineer to Government (Road Development) at the 19th Annual Session of the Indian Road Congress suggesting enactment of new highway laws to make roads free from haphazard growth of buildings along them and from encroachment ; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken in that direction ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India have circulated a draft Model Highway Bill to States which includes provisions for the prevention of haphazard growth of buildings along roads and removal of encroachments thereon, with the suggestion that State Governments may consider undertaking legislation on the basis of those provisions. Some States have already taken steps to enact necessary legislation.

Colombo Plan

*1883. **Shri Bishwa Nath Roy** : Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Australia would supply rail wagons and coaches to India under the Colombo Plan; and

(b) if so, their number ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan) : (a) Yes.

(b) 2,000 metre gauge wagons and 24 broad gauge diesel rail cars.

Shri Bishwa Nath Roy: May I know whether the supply of these wagons and raill cars will meet the need of India for the time being ?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan : It would not fully satisfy our requirements but it would very substantially help us.

Shri Bishwa Nath Roy : May I know whether India would be required to pay anything for these wagons and cars ?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan : These are being supplied under the Colombo Plan and the payment by the Railway Ministry would be made to the Ministry of Finance.

Shri Bishwa Nath Roy : May I know what will be the amount to be paid ?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: I cannot give the exact figures. But, it will be between Rs. 3·2 crores and Rs. 4·3 crores.

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri) : I want to correct the answer given by the Parliamentary Secretary. The payment of the rail cars will be about Rs. 64 lakhs and the value of the wagons will be approximately Rs. 168 lakhs.

Railway Tribunal

*1884. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao :** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the One Man Tribunal appointed to go into the grievances of Railwaymen has since submitted its report ;

(b) if so, the action taken on the Report; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, the reasons for the delay ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Tribunal has been able to hold only two sittings so far. Firstly, there was delay in the submission of the written statement of demands by the National Federation of Indian Railway men As there was disagreement about the validity of the inclusion of a large number of items within the terms of reference, the Tribunal decided in April 1955 that the N. F. I. R. and the Railway Board should get together to discuss the matter. This was done in July, 1955 and three itemsout of the five were settled. The Tribunal will take up the other items in its further sittings.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao : There are now two National Federations of Indian Railwaymen, one whose President is Shri Vasvada and the other of which Shri S. Guruswamy is the General Secretary. I want to know whether the agreement that has been entered into with the Federation of which the President is Shri Vasvada has been agreed to by the Federation which is led by Shri Guruswamy.

Shri Alagesan : In the first instance, I should make it quite clear that there are no two Federations. There is only one Federation which has been recognised. It is true that there has been some difference of opinion between the Federation that has been recognised and a section of the people belonging to the Federation. That does not mean any difference as far as the settlement of the issue is concerned.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao : May I know which of the two Federations is recognised, the one led by Shri Vasvada or the other ?

Shri Alagesan : In fact, I deny the existence of two Federations. I said there is only one Federation of which the President is the gentleman named by the hon. Member. There is some difference of opinion between the Federation and some of the members of the Federation. That does not mean there is another Federation.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao : Some more items had to be referred to the Railway Tribunal in consultation with the N.F.I.R. as already proposed by the Railway Minister in his Budget speech. Has that been done now ?

Shri Alagesan : As I said, there was a sitting of the Tribunal in which it was agreed that some matters may be discussed between the Board and the Federation. I should say that it produced very good results, perhaps for the first time—I may call it even a revoluntary step—when the Federation and the Board sat together and in a matter of a few days were able to come to an agreement on many of the items which were the bone of contention over the past several years.

Shri P. C. Bose: What were the items over which agreement was reached between the Railway Board and the Federation ?

Shri Alagesan : Broadly, five issues were referred to the Tribunal, of which agreement was reached on three issues. I may refer the hon. Member to the terms of reference, but I broadly say that there was agreement on those three. I do not think I should read out the terms of reference now.

Rice Banks

*1889. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh :** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up "Rice Banks" in the country;

(b) if so, when ;

(c) the functions of these Banks; and

(d) how many such Banks are likely to be set up in the first instance?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh) : (a) No, Sir. Government have no such proposal at present.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh : The hon. Minister has stated that Government have no such proposal at present. May I know whether there is a proposal before the Government which might be introduced at a later date ?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : There is a recommendation by the Rural Survey Credit Committee. They have recom-

mended the establishment of such banks which may be considered in due course.

Shri S. N. Das: Are Government aware if any of the State Governments has formulated a plan of this type or has not ?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : No State has formulated any such plan, but there exist some grain golas for seeds, etc., in some of the States like Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, etc.

Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Enquiry Committee

*1896. **Shri Kirolikar :** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the committee set up to consider the adequacy of the existing provisions of various laws for the prevention of cruelty to animals in the country and other allied matters has submitted its report; and

(b) if so, when the report will be placed on the Table of the House ?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No definite date can yet be mentioned.

श्री किरोलिकर: इस कमेटी में कितने और कौन कौन से मेम्बर हैं ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : इस में कुल १३ या १४ सदस्य हैं, जिन के नाम यह हैं :

Shri V.K. Krishna Menon	*Chairman*
Shrimati Rukmini Devi Arundale . . .	Member
Dr. M. D. D. Gilder .	,,
Shri Kakasaheb Kalelkar .	,,
Prof. N. R. Malkani .	,,
Shrimati Lakshmi N. Menon . . .	,,
Shri Dewan Chand Sharma . . .	,,
Shri G. Srinavasa Murty (of the School of Indian Medicine) . . .	,,
The Commissioner, Animal Husbandry, Government of India .	,,
The Inspector General of Forests, Government of India	,,
Dr. K. Mitra, Assistant Director General of Health Services, Government of India .	,,
Dr. Syed Mahmud has been replaced by Pandit Munishwar Dutt Upadhyay	Membe
Dr. P. Subbarayan has been appointed as an additional member .	,,

Shri R. L. Mehta, I. A. S., Deputy Secretary Ministry of Food and Agriculture was Secretary but somebody else will succeed him.

श्रीमती कमलेंदु मति शाह: जब यह जानवर एक जगह से दूसरी जगह ले जाये जाते हैं, तो उन को पानी पिलाने, खाना देने और छांह में रखने का कोई प्रबन्ध किया जाता है या नहीं ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख: जो भी दिक्कतें होंगी, कमेटी उन पर गौर करेगी ।

Payment of Taxes

*1897. **Sardar Iqbal Singh :** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the system of payment of taxes in the shape of labour still exists ;

(b) if so, the names of the States where this system is in vogue ;

(c) the types of taxes paid in the shape of labour ; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to abolish this system ?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali) : (a) to (d). The system mentioned in the question does not exist in Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, PEPSU, Kutch, Tripura, Saurashtra, Punjab and Manipur. Information concerning other States has been called for and it will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as received.

Sardar Iqbal Singh : May I know if the hon. Minister is aware of the fact that the Government of India has admitted in their representation to the First Labour Commission appointed by the U.N.O. which was presided over by Shri Ramaswami Mudaliar, that there existed a system of payment of taxes in the shape of labour ? If that is a fact, may I know the type of system that existed in India ?

Shri Abid Ali : According to the information which was collected some time back—of course I do not know the latest position—it was found that in Ajmer and Hyderabad and perhaps in Bhopal also, Panchayats were empowered to commute the payment of taxes i nto contributions of labour. The relevant provisions will be found in the Panchayat Acts concerned.

Sardar Iqbal Singh : Is the Government aware of the fact that this is a feudal type of system and that steps should be taken by Government to remove that system ?

Shri Abid Ali : That is a matter of opinion.

Shri Heda : May I know in what shape and when the collection of taxes in the shape of labour in Hyderabad existed ?

Shri Abid Ali : I said it was in the Panchayats system when the Panchayats were empowered to commute payment of taxes into contributions of labour. About the exact time, I do not know.

Shri B. S. Murthy : Is Government aware that under the name of forced labour, the payment of taxes is in existence in tribal areas, and, if so, what are the steps taken to prevent that ?

Shri Abid Ali : We have not received any such complaint.

डाक

*१८९८. **श्री के० सी० सोधिया** : क्या **संचार** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) हरकारों द्वारा डाक ले जाने के बदले मोटर द्वारा डाक ले जाने का प्रबन्ध १९५४–५५ में कितने मील की दूरी के लिये किया गया ;

(ख) इसका कितने हरकारों पर प्रभाव पड़ा ;

(ग) हरकारों पर और मोटर व्यवस्था पर कितना मासिक व्यय होता है ; और

(घ) इस प्रबन्ध से डाक की प्राप्ति के समय में कितने प्रतिशत की बचत हुई है ?

संचार उपमंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर): (क) से (घ). एक विवरण पत्र जिसमें मांगी हुई सूचना दी गई है, सभा-पटल पर रक्खा जाता है । **[देखिये परिशिष्ट १०, अनुबन्ध संख्या ३]**

श्री के० सी० सोधिया : यह जो ५०० के करीब हरकारे अलग कर दिये गये हैं, उनके लिये कोई दूसरा काम ढुंढ़ा गया है ?

श्री राज बहादुर: जिन हरकारों को अलग किया गया है उन में से जो मुस्तकिल मुलाजिमत में थे,उनकी गिनती २०५ थी और जो अतिरिक्त विभागीय सेवा वाले थे उन की निगती ११५ थी । उनमें से ४९ को छोड़ कर, जो कि अतिरिक्त विभागीय थे, शेष को किसी न किसी स्थान पर रख दिया गया है । सिर्फ एक अस्थायी और २ मुस्तकिल अब तक नहीं रक्खे जा सके हैं ।

श्री के० सी० सोधिया : सन् १९५१ से अब तक कतने हरकारें अलग किये गये ?

श्री राज बहादुर : सन् १९५१ से कितने हरकारे अलय किये गये, इस प्रश्न के लिये मुझे सूचना की आवश्यकता है ।

श्री के० सी० सोधिया: इस में कुल बचत कितनी हुई ?

श्री राज बहादुर : १८० रनर्स लाइंस हटाई गई हैं, जिन का विस्तार २१११ मील था । उनके बदले में मोटर बसों के द्वार का इन्तजाम किया गया है ।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि प्रथम पंचवर्षीय योजना का जो लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया गया था क्या वह करीब करीब पूरा हो गया है, और अगली पंचवर्षीय योजना में भी क्या इस तरह की कोई बात रक्खी जा रही है ?

श्री राज बहादुर : इस में लक्ष्य का कोई प्रश्न नहीं है । प्रश्न यह होता है कि चूंकि मोटर या किसी और तरह की सुविधा याता-

बात की नहीं है इस लिये वहां हम पैदल डाक ले जाते हैं, जब यह सुविधा उपलब्ध हो जाती है और मोटर या दूसरे यातायात के साधन मिल जाते हैं तो उन का उपयोग किया जाता है ।

Shri Veeraswamy : May I know the number of runners affected by this system in the Madras State and whether they have been absorbed in other services ?

Shri Raj Bahadur : The statement is complete and it gives full and detailed information.

Central Control Laboratory at Kanpur

*1899. **Shri M. L. Agrawal** : Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to expand the Central Control Laboratory at Kanpur; and

(b) if so, the details of the expansion scheme ?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri M. L. Agrawal : What sort of work is done in this laboratory ?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : It deals with quality control of ghee and edible oils.

Postal Arrangements on Solar Eclipse

*1900. **Dr. Satyawadi** : Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the arrangements Posta Telegraph and Telephone) made during the last ' Solar Eclipse ' gathering at Kurukshetra ; and

(b) the amount spent on these arrangements ?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 4.

डा० सत्यवादी. क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि जो यह खर्च आपने बताया इसके मुकाबले में कितनी आमदनी महकमे को हुई है ?

श्री राज बहादुर : आमदनी विशेष रूप से अलहदा नहीं बताई जा सकती क्योंकि यह भी होता है कि जो आमदनी इन विशेष अस्थायी डाक और तारघरों से होती है वह साधारणतया दूसरे स्थायी डाक घरों और तार घरों से भी हो जाती है ।

Gift Parcels from U.S.A.

*1901. **Shri B.N. Misra** : Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a large consignment of gift parcels from the U.S.A. has recently arrived in India;

(b) if so, the commodities which have been received;

(c) the total quantity thereof;

(d) who is the consignee for these gift parcels;

(e) which Agency is dealing with their distribution;

(f) whether Government have any control over the distribution of the gift parcels;

(g) if so, in what way ; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M.V. Krishnappa): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The bulk of the gift parcels recently received have been under the Indo-U.S. agreement and largely consist of foodgrains, butter, butter oil, cottonseed oil, dry milk, cheese, shortening, drugs and medicines, hand tools, hospital equipment and supplies etc.

(c) These gift parcels are being received in different packings such as cartons, crates, bags, drums etc. During the six months ending 30th June, 1955 about 5 lakh 30 thousand pacages were received.

(d) The gift parcels are consigned to the recognised Receiving Agencies in India through the Regional Director (Food) of the port of entry in India who clears the parcels and despatches them to the destinations indicated by the recognised Receiving Agencies in India.

(e) A statement is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha giving names of the re-

cognised Receiving Agencies in India who receive and arrange distribution of gifts. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 5]

(f) *to* (h) Under the Indo-U.S. Agreement the responsibility for distribution of gift parcels rests with the recognised Receiving Agencies. These Receiving Agencies, however, are required to arrange distribution use of gifts free of cost amongst the poor and needy without discrimination irrespective of their race, caste or creed. For this purpose the state Governments, in whose jurirdiction the gifts are distributed used, are required to issue, after duly satisfying themselves, certificates that the gifts have actually been distributed in the prescribed manner.

Shri B. N. Misra : As these gifts are of different qualities and contain ghee and other articles, may I know whether before actual distribution is made, these are certified or checked that they are genuine and are worth consumption.

Shri Krishnappa: Let the hon. Member rest assured that all the gifts that we are getting are generally from America and will be pure and there will not be any room for adulteration. When there is some doubt they will be checked and such goods alone as are in good condition will be distributed.

Shri B. N. Misra : These goods that come to India as gifts are given permission to be imported here and they are the distributed free of cost. Has it come to the knowledge of the Government or has there been any complaint that these gifts are sold in the market and are not distributed freely?

Shri Krishnappa : There is no complaint that they are sold in the market. But there are some complaints that these gifts are distributed with some discrimination. For example, some Christian institutions and some Fathers are distributing these only to Christians. In such cases, we are taking action to see that they are properly distributed.

Dr. Rama Rao : May I know if the whole quantity is received by the Government of India and then distributed to the 31 agencies or some of these agencies get direct from the Americans concerned?

Shri Krishnappa : The sending agencies in America are about seven. We have recognised about 31 agencies in India and these gifts are sent from these seven agencies. The Government of India—the Food and Agriculture Ministry act as clearing agency. We receive them in the ports and certify that they are gifts because they are free from customs duties

Shri Kajrolkar : Will the Minister clarify the difference between ghee and butter oil?

Shri Krishnappa : In America perhaps they do not have the word ghee; it is the Indian name. So they have said butter oil which is the oil prepared out of butter.

Supply of Wheat and Rice to West Bengal

***1962. Shri N. B. Chowdhury** : Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of West Bengal have asked for rice and wheat from the Central Government for the current year; and

(b) if so, the quantities of rice and wheat sent to West Bengal during this year so far?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (M. V. Krishnappa) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury : May I know whether under the scheme for helping famine and scarcity affected areas, Government has made any allocation to the State of West Bengal in order to help selling rice at cheaper rates in those areas?

Shri Krishnappa : The question asked is whether the Government of West Bengal had asked for any foodgrains from the Centre. The reply is 'No'. They have got enough of foodgrains with them. They have got 1,90,000 tons and nearly one lakh which was surplus to them was surrendered by them to the Centre and we despatched that rice to the deficit areas in Orissa this year. Regarding distribution of rice at concessional rates in the flood affected areas of Jalpaiguri and Cooch-Behar they are doing it according to the existing rubs and we are meeting a portion—fifty per cent—of the loss that they incur subject to a maximum of Rs. 2 crores.

Air Accident

***1903. Shri Raghunath Singh** : Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that a freighter Dakota belonging to the Indian Airlines Corporation crashed while taking off from Simra airfield on the 30th August, 1955; and

(b) if so, the causes thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The accident is under investigation.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि यह एक्सीडेंट एंजिन के दोष के कारण हुआ या इसका कोई और कारण था ?

श्री राज बहादुर : अभी इस एक्सीडेंट की जांच हो रही है, इसलिये अभी यह कहना समय से पूर्व होगा कि यह किस कारण से हुआ ।

Shri Raghunath Singh : Will he make enquiries again?

Shri Raj Bahadur : A Committee of Enquiry has been appointed. I will not be able to give the names.

Shri Joachim Alva : Is it not true that most pilots of the Indian airlines do not possess navigation certificates, that that have not undergone any navigation course and that it is essential for them to undergo such a course under the rules of the International Civil Airlines Organisation of which India is a member?

Shri Raj Bahadur : We have got a class for training in navigation at the CATC and the pilots are put in that class as a matter of course and I believe that most of the pilots are now acquiring this qualification.

Shri Kamath : A court of enquiry is appointed but no names are given, How is it?

Mr. Speaker : He wants notice for that.

Shri Kamath : It is very strange.

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram) : May I put in one word? Hon. Member should knowthat the accident took place in the territory of Nepal. In the ordinary course when an accident takes place within the jurisdiction of a foreign Government, the court of enquiry or investigation should be appointed by that Government. But as there is no fully developed civil aviation department in Nepal, we are having a departmental enquiry into the cause of the accident.

उत्तर प्रदेश की सीमा पर बन लगाया जाना

*१९०५. **श्री भक्त दर्शन** : क्या खाद्य और कृषि मंत्री ४ अप्रैल, १९५५ को पूछे गये तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या १८९१ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) राजस्थान की सीमा पर ५ मील चौड़ी जंगल की पटरी तैयार करने के लिये उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार को आर्थिक सहायता (सबसिडी) देने के प्रश्न पर क्या तब से कोई निश्चय किया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो कितनी राशि स्वीकृत की गई है ; और

(ग) योजना को कार्यान्वित करने के लिये अभी तक कितनी प्रगति हुई है ?

कृषि मंत्री (डा० पी० एस० देशमुख) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) १,५९,८०० रुपयों की वित्त सहायता दी गई है ।

(ग) सन् १९५३–५४ में योजना के शुरु होने के वक्त से १५,४०० एकड़ जमीन में और सड़कों की ५२½ मील की लम्बी पटरी पर पौधे उगाने का काम किया गया है । इस के अलावा २९ मील लम्बी पटरी की और करीब ३०० एकड़ जमीन की मिट्टी भी सुधारी जा चुकी है ।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : पिछली बार उत्तर देते हुए माननीय मंत्री जी ने बताया था कि इस योजना के पूरे होने में करीब १५ वर्ष लगेंगे । मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि इस समय जो प्रगति हो रही है क्या वह जो कार्यक्रम निर्धारित किया गया है क्या वह उसके अनुसार हो रही है और क्या उससे माननीय मंत्री जी संतुष्ट हैं ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : शायद बहुत तेजी से काम हो रहा है ।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या यू० पी० सरकार ने इस कार्यक्रम में और तेजी लाने के लिये कोई और सहायता की मांग की है, यदि हां, तो क्या उस पर विचार किया जा रहा है ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : उन्होंने दूसरी योजना भी भेजी है जिस के बारे में उन्होंने पूरी तफसील नहीं भेजी । उसके बारे में हमने फिर से रैफ्रेंस किया है ।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या यह सत्य नहीं है कि यह वही इलाका है जहां पर कि सुप्रसिद्ध डाकू मान सिंह का दल पिछले दिनों डाके डालता रहा है और क्या गवर्नमेंट के विभाग में यह बात आई है कि अगर इस तरह का जंगल वहां उगाया गया तो और डकैतियां बढ़ने की सम्भावना हो सकती है ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : डाकू मान सिंह तो अब चला गया है । मैं नहीं समझता इस तरह का कोई और खतरा जंगल उगाने के कारण से पैदा हो सकता है ।

बाढ़ग्रस्त क्षेत्रों में खाद्यान्नों का मूल्य

*१९०६. **श्री एस० एम० दास** : क्या खाद्य और कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) विभिन्न बाढ़ग्रस्त क्षेत्रों में अभी खाद्यान्नों के मूल्य क्या हैं;

(ख) क्या इन क्षेत्रों में रियायती मूल्यों पर खाद्यान्न बेचने के लिये प्रबन्ध किया गया है ;

(ग) क्या रियायती दरों पर खाद्यान्न बेचन के लिये राज्य सरकारों को केन्द्रीय सरकार आर्थिक सहायता देने का विचार रखती है ; है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो कितनी ?

खाद्य और कृषी उपमंत्री (श्री एम० वी० कृष्णप्पा) : (क) सभा के टेबिल पर एक विवरण रख दिया गया है । [देखिये परिशिष्ट १०, अनुबन्ध संख्या ६]

(ख) जी हां, उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार, आसाम और उड़ीसा की सरकारों ने अनाजों को रियायती भावों पर बेचने का इन्तजाम किया है ।

(ग) और (घ). अगर सारा नुक्सान दो करोड़ रुपयों से ज्यादा न हो, तो केन्द्रीय सरकार राज्य सरकारों को रियायती भावों पर अनाज के बेचने से हुए नुक्सान का ५० प्रतिशत हिस्सा देगी । अगर नुक्सान दो करोड़ रुपयों से ज्यादा हो, तो केन्द्रीय सरकार नुकसान का ७५ प्रतिशत हिस्सा देगी ।

श्री एस० एम० दास : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि जो रियायती दर पर अनाज बेचने की दुकानें खोली गई हैं, उनकी क्या तादात है और वे अनाज कितने रियायती दामों पर दिये गए है ?

Shri M.V. Krishnappa : I could not follow the question.

Shri S. N. Das : May I know the number of shops opened in the various States the rate of subsidy and the rates at which the foodgrains are being sold there?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa : We do not know the total number of shops opened in these areas because most of them are temporary shops. Regarding the total quantity of foodgrains supplied I am prepared to give the figures. The present prevailing market price of rice in Bihar is Rs. 16/8/- a maund whereas we are selling at Rs. 13/- per maund in those areas.

Shri S. N. Das : The statement shows the present prices of foodgrains. May I know what were the prices prior to these floods?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa : Whatever prices prevailed in the country under de-control also prevailed in these areas prior to these floods. After the floods, because of the floods the prices went up by one of two rupees a maund in some areas and we are selling at a concessional rate of Rs. 13/- per maund.

Shri S. N. Das : How do the prices compare with prices in other States where there is no flood?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain) : For the purpose of comparison I will read out certain figures. Wheat in Uttar Pradesh is being ordinarily sold at between Rs. 12 and Rs. 14 a maund, whereas in the flood affected areas the State Government is selling at the rate of 3½ seers a rupee. The ordinary rate of

jowar in Uttar Pradesh is Rs. 6/12/9 to Rs. 7/8/- whereas the State Government is selling at the rate of 5½ seers a rupee. In Bihar the ordinary rate of rice is Rs. 16/8/- to Rs. 18/8/- a maund whereas the Bihar Government is selling rice at Rs. 13/- so on and so forth.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury : May I know the names to the States to which the Government has granted subsidies or other grants according to the 50 : 50 or 25: 75 per cent basis?

Shri M.V. Krishnappa : To all these States affected by floods, namely: Assam, West Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Orissa.

Own Your Telephone Scheme

*1907. **Shri Heda** : Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the cities from where the 'Own your Telephone' Scheme has been withdrawn;

(b) whether the new telephone connections are now available in those cities; and

(c) whether the subscribers of telephones under the 'Own your Telephone' Scheme are in and was affected thereby?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) : (a) The Own Your Telephone' Scheme has been withdrawn from 12 stations viz., Barnala, Bhatinda, Dhubri, Dhuri, Erode, Gudur, Indore, Kotkapura, Meerut, Rajkot, Surat and Veraval. 'Own Your Telephone' has been relaxed in Hyderabad, Bangalore and areas served by automatic Exchanges in Calcutta.

(b) Yes, subject to the availability of cable pairs and auxiliary stores.

(c) No.

Shri Heda: May I know in how many cities the system is still existing?

Shri Raj Bahadur: This system is still existing in (8 plus 2) 10 stations.

Shri Heda: Is there any Government proposal to withdraw this scheme from all the cities and, if so, by what time they expect it would be withdrawn?

Shri Raj Bahadur : As soon as we get spare capacity and have equipment good enough and fit enough for giving all the required number of telephone connections we shall be withdrawing this 'Own Your Telephone' Scheme.

Shri Heda : May I know the total amount so far collected under this scheme?

Shri Raj Bahadur : It is about Rs. 4 crores——I am speaking from memory.

Railway Medical Service

*1909. **Shri Bahadur Singh** : Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sanitation arrangements are of a poor standard in railway compartments, waiting rooms, platforms and lavatories;

(b) whether there are sufficient number of medical personnel in the Railway Medical Service, under each category;

(c) whether there is any liaison between the Health Ministry and Railway Ministry in the matter of health service; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) No, exist in railway compartments, waiting rooms, station platforms and lavatories.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) Does not arise.

Shri Bahadur Singh : May I know whether there is a general complaint that the railway T. B. patients are not being given any facilities?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan : The Railways have arranged with the Ministry of Health to reserve certain portion of T.B. sanatoria specially for railway employees and I thought the Railways were to be complimented for making this arrangement.

Shri Bahadur Singh : What is the total cost on the railway medical service?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan : I shall require notice, Sir.

Shri Bahadur Singh: May I know whether it will not be more economical in the long run to let this railway medical service go under the Health Ministry?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan : I won't say anything on that point but I would like to inform the hon. Member that the Railways are employing nearly 1 million employees and we are running 75 first rate hospitals, 399 dispensaries and something like 20,000 medical staff are working for the benefit of the Railway employees, and I think we are doing very well in that respect.

Pandit D.N. Tiwary : May I know whether our very enthusiastic Parliamentary Secretary had ever a chance to travel on the N.E. Railway from Gorakhpur to Katihar and if so, has he found that the wagons as well as coaches in this Railways are as clean as he thinks them to be in other Railways?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan : I have not had the privilege yet, but I hope to have that pleasure soon.

Shortage of Wagons

*1912. **Shri Kamath** : Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bidi and Tobacco Merchants Association, Sagar (Madhya Pradesh) have made a representation asking for more wagons at Sagar Railway Station for bidi traffic;

(b) whether it has been considered; and

(c) if so, with what result?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) The suggestions made in the representation were carefully considered by the Central Railway administration but with due regard to the overall requirements to be met, it has not been found feasible to enhance the quotas.

Shri Kamath : Is it a fact that this Association has represented to the Government that they are facing a heavy loss because of huge accumulation of bidi stocks at Sagar Station, and they have asked for more wagons and for upgrading of bidi traffic?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan : There might have been some accumulation of stocks but I should like to inform the hon. Member that besides bidi there are some other very important commodities which have also to be catered for. We make allotments of wagons according to the necessities and commodities such as foodgrains, pulses, timber and other things have also to be moved in large quantities. We supply 120 wagons for free destinations and for restricted destinations 84 wagons; that is the quota allowed.

Shri Kamath : Am I to understand that the representation made by the Bidi Merchants Association has been partially accepted or wholly rejected?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan : The contention of the railways is that we are making fairly liberal allotment of wagons for bidi.

Shri Kamath : Is the Government aware that because of Government's attitude in this matter nearly 1 lakh workers engaged in bidi manufacturing trade are facing unemployment?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L.B. Shastri) : I do not think that is quite correct because we have allotted a large number of wagons for movement of bidi and if there had been some accumulation for some time we have tried to clear that also.

Shri Kamath : Have the stocks been cleared ?

Shri L.B. Shastri : I cannot say positively, but I shall look into that matter further.

Child Welfare

*1916. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by the Government of India for 'promoting the ideals and objectives of the Charter regarding the welfare of children of the world; and

(b) the amount spent so far for this purpose?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar) : (a) and (b) Presumbly the Member refers to the 'Declaration of the rights of the Child' commonly known as the ' Declaration of Geneva'. If so, a note containing the required information is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix X, Annexure No. 7].

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi : From the statement it appears that it is not the responsibility of the Health Ministry alone but that other Ministries have also a similar responsibility. May I know that as the other Ministries which are also looking into his matter and in what way ?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar : Indirectly or directly, all the other Ministries are helping towards the upkeep of the children and the mental and social development of the children. So, I cannot say precisely in what way the other Ministries are responsible.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi : May I know the total amount sanctioned for the scheme ?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar : There is no particular sum for the maternity and child welfare measures. The various schemes that have been taken up by the

Health Ministry are given in the note that has been supplied to the hon. Members.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi : May I know the names of the States which have undertaken this scheme ?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar : There are 12 States in India which have undertaken comprehensive maternity and child welfare schemes for the promotion of health and welfare of children. They are : Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Travancore-Cochin, Hyderabad, Assam, Andhra, Mysore Bombay, West Bengal and Saurashtra. The last four States will be implementing the schemes shortly.

Shrimati Sushama Sen : May I know whether there is any liaison between the Health Ministry and the Central Social Welfare Board for promoting the welfare of children, and if so, what is the liaison ?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar : I would require notice.

फसलों का कीड़ों से बचाव

*१९१७. **श्री विभूती मिश्र** : क्या खाद्य और कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में फसलों को नुकसान पहुंचाने वाले कीड़ों की जांच करवाई है ;

(ख) यदि हां तो विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में कितने प्रकार के कीड़े फसल को हानि पहुंचाते हैं ;

(ग) उनसे प्रति वर्ष कितनी हानि होती है; और

(घ) इन कीड़ों से फसलों का बचाव करने के लिये किन उपायों का पता लगाया गया है ?

कृषि मंत्री (डा० पी० एस० देशमुख): (क) से (घ) सभा की टेबिल पर एक विवरण रख दिया गया है । [देखिये परिशिष्ट १०, अनुबन्ध संख्या ८]

श्री विभूति मिश्र : यह जो विवरण में फसलों को कीड़ों से बचाने के उपचार दिये गये हैं, क्या इनके प्रचार का गांवों में सरकार प्रबन्ध कर रही है ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : इस विषय की जानकारी काश्तकारों को देने के लिये राज्य सरकारों ने काफी प्रयत्न किये हैं

श्री विभूति मिश्र : ज्ञान के लिये इस विवरण में दिया गया है :

> " Dusting with 5 percent BHC; Spraying with 0·25 per cent DDT; Flooding the field and killing the larvae by dislodging them in kerosen ised water".

अगर ये सब दवाइयां एक एकड़ भूमि में उपयोग की जायं तो कितना खर्च पड़ेगा ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : इसका कुछ अन्दाजा नहीं है । अगर कहीं ये बीमारियां शुरू हों और उसी वक्त इनका इलाज कर लिया जाय तो उससे दूसरे काश्तकारों को फायदा होता है। अगर एक एकड़ में कुछ ज्यादा पैसा भी लग जाता है तो उससे जो फायदा होता है वह बहुत ज्यादा होता है ।

श्री विभूति मिश्र : क्या सरकार की तरफ से कोई ऐसा प्रयत्न किया जा रहा है कि यह जो कीड़ा लगता है इसके लिये कोई सस्ती और गांव वालों की समझ में आसानी से आने वाली दवा निकाली जाय ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख: अगर कोई सस्ती दवा हो जिससे इलाज हो सकता हैं तो हम अवश्य उस पर विचार करेंगे ।

Passenger Amenities

*1918. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary** : Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the remarks of the General Manager, North Eastern Railway, made on the 31st May, 1955 at Kurseong on the occasion of the meeting of the Passenger Amenities Sub-committee of the

North Eastern Railway Zonal Consultative Committee to the effect that the work of providing passengers amenities could not be pressed forward at present;

(b) if so, whether Government are in agreement with the views expressed by the General Manager; and

(c) if not the steps taken to steep up the work of passengers amenities in the North Eastern Railway?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) The General Manager had stated that a large number of works carried forward from the previous year could not be pressed forward to the extent desired due to the pre-occupation of the Railway engineers with the restoration of the breached section.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The works are being pressed forward to the maximum extent feasible.

पंडित डी० एन० तिवारी : मैंने पहले प्रश्न में भी इस विषय पर सप्लीमेंटरी प्रश्न किया था । मैं यह जानना चाहता था कि आनरेबल मिनिस्टर के अलावा क्या और अधिकारी भी वहां गये हैं और उन्होंने देखा है कि वहां पर पैसिंजर एमेनिटीज का स्तर कितना लो है ?

श्री शाहनवाज खां : हाथी के पैर में सब का पैर आ जाता है । मिनिस्टर साहब ने देख लिया तो सब ने देख लिया ।

पंडित डी० एन० तिवारी : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि एन० ई० रेलवे की पैसिंजर ऐमेनिटीज को और रेलवेज के बराबर लाने में कितने दिन और लगेंगे और उसके लिये क्या प्रयत्न हो रहा है ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन मंत्री (श्री एल० बी० शास्त्री) : पार्लियामेंटरी सेक्रेटरी साहब ने जरा गलती की है । मेरा पैर हाथी का पैर तो हो ही नहीं सकता जहां तक सुविधाओं का सवाल है, नार्थ ईस्टर्न रेलवे, हमारे जमाने से नहीं, कम्पनी के जमानें से इस मामले में काफी पीछे रही है कम्पनी ने जाने से पहले अपना काम खराब कर दिया था और उसको सुधारने में समय लगेगा। हम एन० ई० रेलवे को रुपया देने में कोई कमी नहीं कर रहे हैं,बल्कि और रेलवेज से हम एन० ई० रेलवे को ज्यादा रुपया दे रहे हैं । ऐसी हालत में माननीय सदस्य को कोई चिन्ता नहीं होनी चाहिये । मगर उसको सुधारने में कुछ समय तो लगेगा, और हम उधर की हालत को ठीक करने के लिये बहुत कोशिश कर रहे हैं ।

पंडित डी० एन० तिवारी : कम्पनी के समय में एन० ई० रेलवे का पैसिंजर भाड़ा और लाइनों से कम था, इसलिये अगर लोगों को कुछ तकलीफ होती थी तो उसको बरदाश्त कर लेते थे । लेकिन आज भाड़ा सब रेलों के बराबर है और ऐमेनिटीज और लाइनों से बहुत नीचे हैं ऐसी हालत में क्या गवर्नमेंट भाड़े में कुछ कमी करने की बात सोच रही है ।

श्री एल० बी० शास्त्री : मेरे ख्याल में यह कहना कि कम्पनी के जमाने में भाड़ा बहुत कम था, ठीक नहीं है । मुझे इस रेलवे पर सफर करने का बहुत ज्यादा तजर्बा है । बनारस से इलाहाबाद के बीच किराये में सिर्फ डेढ या दो आने का फर्क था । वह अन्तर बहुत ज्यादा नहीं था । अब अगर किराया डेढ़ आना बढ़ गया है तो हमने कम्पनी के जमाने से बहुत ज्यादा सुविधायें भी दे दी हैं ।

श्री विभूति मिश्र : पहले जब इस लाइन पर २ पाई प्रति मील किराया था तो दूसरी लाइनों पर ढाई पाई फी मील था । अब इस लाइन पर दूसरी लाइनों के बराबर किराया हो गया है । तो मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या उसी हिसाब से तीसरे, दूसरे और पहले दर्जे में इस लाइन पर एमेनिटीज भी बढ़ गयी हैं, अगर एसा नहीं है तो क्या इनमें सुधार होने की आशा की जा सकती है ?

श्री एल० बी० शास्त्री : मैं देखूंगा । लेकिन अगर माननीय सदस्य यह चाहते हैं कि हम कम्पनी का इन्तिजाम फिर से लादें तो वह हमारे लिये मुम्किन नहीं है ।

Roads in Andamans

*1920. **Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad** : Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government propose to construct a trunk road linking the three main islands in the Andaman Islands group?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): Yes, after a proper survey of the area has been carried out.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad : What would be the length of the road the construction of which, the hon. Minister has just now said, would be taken up by Government? Has any rough estimate been made by the the Ministry?

Shri Alagesan : I can only give a rough answer. It would be between 160 and 170 miles.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad : Would the Government tell us what are the transport facilities that are available at present in the three main islands in the Andaman Islands group?

Shri Alagesan : As I said before, before proceeding with this road, the islands have to be properly surveyed and the Survey of India has been carrying on the work, and we propose to construct portions of the trunk road. A rough alignment has been made which will be taken up during the second Five Year Plan.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad : As between the three groups of the island, there is much water. Therefore, do Government propose to devise an alternate system of transport, just like the present water transport system of 'moulis' for carrying on trade?

Shri Alagesan : As it is, the road may have to cross the sea in three places and perhaps we will have to take the road on it. I am not aware of the details of this matter.

Railway Workshop Reviewing Committee

*1921. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao** : Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 559 on the 8th August, 1955 and state :

(a) whether any action has since been taken by the Railway Board on the interim Report submitted by the Railway Workshops Reviewing Committee; and

(b) if so, the nature of the action taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) (a) and (b) Yes. This was a departmental committee and the report deals with departmental procedures and readjustments. Appropriate action where necessary has been and is being taken.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao : May I know whether the final report has been submitted by this Committee, because, in reply to a question on the 8th August last, it was said that the Committee's report was expected by the end of August.

Shri Alagesan : Yes; It has been submitted.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao : Could I know the main recommendations of this Committee?

Shri Alagesan : As it is, it is purely technical. Perhaps the hon. Member may understand it but I am not able to understand it. It runs to several pages. I do not think I should bother the House with that.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao : May I know whether this Committee has found out that the capacity of some workshops has been under-utilised?

Shri Alagesan : I do not think I should go into every detail of the report of the Committee. It is a departmental Committee intended purely for action being taken by the department concerned. The Board has accepted many of the recommendations and is issuing instructions to the various railway administrations.

Shri Kamath : May I know whether a copy of the report will be placed on the Table of the House?

Mr. Speaker : It is a question of administrative detail. I do not propose to encourage that kind of probe into the administrative details. Unless there is some kind of principle involved, I do not think the question should come before the Parliament.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao : The Railway Minister, in his speech during the budget session two years ago, said that this Committee was being appointed to go into the question of fully utilising the existing capacity in the railway workshops. That is why I want to know whether the Committee has found that some workshops are under-utilised.

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri) : We might be able to give some information to the hon. Member later on when the Committee has completed its final report.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Railway Coaches

*1868. **Shri D. C. Sharma** : Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of metre-gauge coaches manufactured in India during the year 1954; and

(b) the places where they were manufactured?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) 297 complete coaches.

(b) Indian Railway Workshops.

Fare Concessions

*1869. **Shri Dabhi** : Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that concession in fares was given during the current year, for special trains carrying parties of youths and *kisans* who had undertaken journeys to the various River Valley and Community Projects Areas; and

(b) if so, the number of such parties who have availed of these concession so far?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Three parties availed of the concession upto 30th June, 1955.

Food Surplus

*1874. **Shri Ibrahim** : Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the States which produce surplus foodgrains; and

(b) the quantity of foodgrains which the Central Government have received from such States during the year 1954-55?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, PEPSU, Punjab, Andhra, Vindhya Pradesh, Bhopal and Manipur.

(b) With complete decontrol of rice from 10th July, 1954, the Basic Plan allocation of foodgrains from surplus states to deficit States was discontinued and foodgrains began moving freely on trade account from one State to another. Upto 10th July, 1954 a quantity of 480,000 tons of foodgrains was despatched under Central Basic Plan from surplus States to the deficit areas.

Shipping Conferences

*1879. **Shri M. R. Krishna** : Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 306 on the 28th February, 1955 and state whether the Indian Shipping Companies have been since admitted to the Shipping Conferences governing the intermediate trades in the India-Pakistan/United Kingdom-continental trades sectors?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan). Not yet.

Tripartite Agreement

*1880. **Shri Biren Dutt** : Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Tripartite Agreement was signed in the Tea Estate of Dharmanagar, Tripura on the 7th October, 1953;

(b) whether it is a fact that a complaint was lodged by the labourers with the Labour Officers against the management for the violation of that Agreement; and

(c) if so, the action taken against the management?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai) (a) and (b) Yes.

(c) The matter was amicably settled?

Barabil-Joda Railway Line

*1881. **Shri R. N. S. Deo** : Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation for extending the proposed Barabil-Joda line to Dumna which is a mining centre in Keonjhar District of Orissa;

(b) whether any traffic or engineering survey has been made between Joda and Dumna ; and

(c) if so, the results thereof?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b) No, Sir.
(c) Does not arise.

Lack of Transport Facilities

*1882. **Shri L. N. Mishra** : Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Departments of Government have complained that their development works have been held up for want of necessary transport facilities from Railways; and

(b) if so, the names of the Departments that have made such complaints and the works that are stated to have suffered ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) While there have been some complaints from time to time from some State Governments regarding inadequacy of rail transport to meet their requirements fully and currently, no specific complaints as to the hold-up of development works for lack of rail transport as such, appears to have been received.

(b) Does not arise.

Distribution of Foodstuffs

*1885. **Shri Kelappan:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Agencies in India approved for receiving relief supplies of foodstuffs coming under the Indo-U.S. Agreement, for free distribution to the poor and the needy;

(b) the Agencies through which the distribution is made in the State of Madras especially in the Malabar District; and

(c) the terms of the Agreement ?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) A list of the Agencies approved by the Government of India for receiving relief supplies, including foodstuffs coming under the Indo-US Agreement dated 9th July, 1951 is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 5]

(b) The Agencies, mentioned in reply to part (a), arrange the distribution of gift parcels through various distributors throughout the country. No agencies have been specified for distribution in the State of Madras and the District of Malabar.

(c) The Agreement mainly provides for :

(*i*) Shipment of gift materials from U.S.A. by recognised sending agencies, the freight and other incidental charges upto the port of entry in India being paid by the U.S.A. Government; and

(*ii*) Customs-free entry into India, the cost of clearance from the port area and their despatch to destinations indicated by the recognised receiving agencies in India being borne by the Government of India. The Gifts are required to be distributed by the recognised receiving agencies free of cost among the poor and needy without distinction of race, caste or creed.

Railway Employees

*1886. **Shri V. Missir:**
Shri R. N. Singh:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the *ex*-Cash Contractor of the E.P. Railway allowed inflated rates of pay to his employees while he was under notice of termination of his contract in 1948;

(b) whether these inflated rates were recognised for the purpose of fixation of pay of the staff, when this work was taken over by Government;

(c) whether Government took steps to ascertain how far the rates had been inflated by the *ex*-Cash Contractor; and

(d) if so, the nature of the steps taken ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) to (d). The Railway had detected from the records of the contractor that one increment not due had been given on 1-10-1948 to 10 of the contractor's staff. In these cases, the extra increment was excluded in fixing pay.

Ellora and Ajanta Caves

*1887. **Shri H. G. Vaishnav:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any facilites are given to the tourist visiting Ellora and Ajanta Caves;

(b) if so the nature thereof;

(c) whether the number of the tourists visiting these Caves has increased during the last five years; and

(d) if so, in what proportion ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shanawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 9]

(c) Yes.

(d) A statement giving the number of visitors for each year from 1950 to 1954 is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 9]

West Coast Ports

*1888. **Shri V. P. Nayar:**
Shri Punnoose:

Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Governments of Travancore-Cochin and Madras have submitted proposals for improving the West Coast ports ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): Yes, Sir.

Telephone Exchanges

*1890. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to open Telephone Exchanges in the District of Koraput (Orissa);

(b) if so, their number ; and

(c) when these proposals will materialise ?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) Two.

(c) During 1956.

Co-operative Movement

*1891. **Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether any steps are being taken to de-officialize the co-operative movement to ensure effective service by co-operative organisations for the implementation of the Second Five Year Plan ?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): One of the main reasons for the poor progress of Co-operative Movement in this country has been lack of adequate finance and State support. It is now recognized by non-official co-operators as well as Government that unless there is active State participation, this movement cannot make substantial progress. Care is, however, being taken to see that official interest and State participation does not take away the initiative from the co-operative institutions and all efforts are directed towards fostering local non-official leadership with a view to make the movement self-reliant.

केन्द्रीय पेट्रोल उपकर निधि

*१८९२. **श्री जांगड़े :** क्या परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि केन्द्रीय पेट्रोल उपकर निधि से मध्य प्रदेश सरकार को सड़क बनाने के लिये १९५३, १९५४ और १९५५ में कुछ राशि दी गई थी ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो कुल कितनी राशि दी गई थी ; और

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि उक्त निधि से रायपुर जिले (मध्य प्रदेश) के शिवरी नारायण से सारंगढ़ तक सड़क बनाने की मंजूरी दी गई है ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन उपमंत्री (श्री अलगेशन) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) सभा पटल पर एक विवरण (statement) रख दिया गया है । [देखिये परिशिष्ट १०, अनुबन्ध संख्या १०]

(ग) जी, हां ।

Railway Bridge

*1893. **Shri Vallatharas:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) for how long the Railway bridge over the Kudamiritti river, a few furlongs to the north of the Fort Railway Station in Trichinopoly (Madras State) on the Trichy-Erode line has been in a damaged condition;

(b) the expenditure incurred annually on the maintenance of the special signalling groups at either end of the bridge; and

(c) the reasons for not repairing the bridge or constructing a new one in its place ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) The bridge in question developed longitudinal cracks in the crown of arch and a speed restriction was imposed from 31-3-1951 to 1-7-1955.

(b) About Rs. 2,500/- per annum.

(c) Construction of a new bridge was not considered necessary as the cracks were only in the two land arches which had been clamped in 1944 and 1946. These arches have now been rebuilt and the work completed on 2-7-1955.

Registration in Employment Exchanges

*1894. **Shri M. Islamuddin :** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1437 on the 31st March, 1954 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recruitment to posts in Central Government establishments in Bihar is made from amongst the candidates who are registered with the Employment Exchanges and those who apply direct ; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to bring it on par with the other States where all the vacancies are compulsorily notified to the Employment Exchanges?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): (a) No. The procedure described in reply to part (c) of Starred Question No. 1437 with regard to filling of vacancies in Central Government establishments applies to such vacancies in Bihar also. All Central Government vacancies in Bihar which are filled otherwise than through the Union Public Service Commission or open competitive examinations are notified to and filled through the Employment Exchanges. Direct recruitment is permissible only when the Exchanges have no suitable candidates to supply.

(b) Does not arise.

Mayurbhanj Light Railway

*1895. **Shri Subodh Hasda:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received recently a representation for the people of Orissa for the improvement of the Mayurbhanj Light Railway;

(b) if so the action taken in the matter; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to convert it into broad gauge line ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan) : (a) Representation, dated 21-4-54, was received from the Chairman and the Councillors of Baripada Municipality, stressing the necessity of converting the narrow gauge line into broad gauge.

(b) The representationists were advised that the question of conversion into broad gauge was examined in 1950 but was not found to be financially justified.

(c) The question of conversion of the line into broad gauge along with the case of all other narrow gauge lines is again being looked into.

रेलगाड़ी का पटरी पर से उतर जाना

*१९००. **श्री जी० एल० चौधरी :** क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बांदा-कानपुर लाइन पर बरुआ सुमेरपुर स्टेशन के निकट २७ अगस्त, १९५५ को मालगाड़ी के १२ डिब्बे रेल की पटरी से उतर गये और जमीन में धंस गये ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो दुर्घटना का कारण क्या है ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन मंत्री के संसदीय सचिव (श्री शाहनवाज खां) : (क) २६-८-५५ को लगभग ३ बजे जब ७५५ डाउन मालगाड़ी, मध्य रेलवे के बांदा-कानपुर लाइन पर रागोल और भरुआ सुमेरपुर के बीच जा रही थी, उसके इंजन से १४ वें नम्बर से लेकर २५ वें नम्बर तक के १२ डिब्बे पटरी से उतर गये । इन में से ८ डिब्बे उलट भी गये ।

(ख) ऐसा जान पड़ता है कि इंजन से १५ वें नम्बर पर जो डिब्बा लगा था उस के बायें ओर का अगला बैयरिंग स्प्रिंग (Bearing-Spring) टूट गया था जिसकी वजह से डिब्बे पटरी से उतर गये ।

कम्पोस्ट खाद

*१९०८. **श्री बलवन्त सिंह महता :** क्या **खाद्य और कृषि** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने इस बात की कोई खोज करवाई है कि यदि देश के कुल मल-मूत्र का उपयोग किया जाये तो देश की खाद समस्या किस हद तक पूरी की जा सकती है ;

(ख) यह खाद किन-किन फसलों के लिये उपयोगी सिद्ध हुआ है ;

(ग) इस समय देश में कितना खाद बाहर से आता है; और

(घ) देश में कितना कम्पोस्ट खाद तैयार किया जाता है ?

खाद्य और कृषि मंत्री (श्री ए० पी० जैन) : (क) जी हां । यह अन्दाज़ा है कि अगर कुल मलमूत्र कूड़ा करकट से मिला कर खाद बनाया जाये, तो करीब १२ लाख टन नाइट्रोजन मिल सकेगी ।

(ख) अनाज के और व्यापारिक फसलों के लिये कम्पोस्ट खाद बहुत फायदेमन्द साबित हुई है ।

(ग) माननीय सदस्य शायद ओर्गनिक खाद के बारे में पूछ रहे हैं । इसका आयात नहीं होता है ।

(घ) यह अन्दाज़ा लगाया गया है कि शहरी केन्द्रों में चालू साल में २२ लाख टन खाद पैदा की जायेगी । देहातों में खाद की पदावार के आंकड़े मालूम नहीं हैं ।

Railway Siding

*1910. **Shri B.Y. Reddy:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 375 on the 10th September, 1954 and state:

(a) the progress made so far in the construction of railway line from Bhadrachellam Road Railway Station to Collieries Siding ;

(b) whether the sleepers and rails required for laying the track have been collected by the Central Railway; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railway and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Lakshmipur Halt Railway Station

*1911. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the long delay over the conversion of Lakshmipur Halt, Eastern Railway into a flag station; and

(b) if so, when a decision in the matter can be expected ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) A decision will be taken after discussion with the Zonal Railway Users' Consultative Committee at a meeting to be held in November 1955.

Financial Powers of Heads of Circles

*1913. **Shri S.C. Samanta :** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to stste :

(a) whether the limit of financial powers of the Heads of Circles for construction of buildings has been raised; and

(b) if so, to what extent ?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, from 24-10-1952.

(b)	From Rs.	To Rs.
Residential Buildings .	10,000	20,000
Non-residential (Buildings)	20,000	50,000

Sugar Mills

*1914. **Shri D.C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any requests from the Punjab Government for assistance in setting up more sugar mills in that State; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon ?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes.

(b) The Central Government have decided to advance to the State Government loans upto Rs. 20 lakhs each for contribution to the share capital of the two co-operative sugar factories licensed in the Punjab. This contribution will however be subject to the condition that an equal amount is contributed by the cultivators.

Derailment

*1915. **Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is frequent derailment of trains running between Bombay and Delhi on the Broad Gauge Line of the Western Railway; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Welfare of Coal Miners

*1919. **Shri M.R. Krishna :** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to increase in the cost of production, the coal mine owners are not implementing the welfare measures for labourers as provided in the statutes;

(b) if so, the mines where the labourers are not given proper amenities; and

(c) the action Government propose to take in the matter ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): (a) Government have no information to this effect.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Ellora and Ajanta

*1922. **Shri H.G. Vaishnav:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some financial assistance has been given to the Hyderabad State for the construction of a cement road connecting Ellora with Ajanta to facilitate tourism;

(b) if so, the amount of assistance so granted; and

(c) the approximate time required for the completion of the road ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). A statement showing the works for which a grant in-aid of Rs. 18 lakhs has been given in order to provide improved communications to Ajanta and Ellora, is placed on the Table of the House . [*See* Appendix X, Annexure No. 11.] There is no proposal for the construction of a cement road connecting Ellora with Ajanta.

(c) The work of black-topping the roads is expected to be completed in a year's time. The construction of the bridge over the Waghur stream is expected to be taken up in the later part of 1956-57 and completed by the end of 1957.

Telegraph Staff Quarters

*1923. **Shri M. Islamuddin:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of the office building and residence of the Divisional Engineer, Telegraphs at Ranchi (Bihar) and staff quarters has started;

(b) if so, the place where they are being constructed;

(c) the number of quarters to be constructed;

(d) the number of quarters which Government propose to complete during this year; and

(e) when they will be available for allotment ?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Not Yet.

(b) The plots are being selected.

(c) 28 units of quarters for the Class III officials are initially proposed to be constructed.

(d) Nil.

(e) In about 2-3 years.

रेलवे सुरक्षा पुलिस

*१९२४. **श्री के० सी० सोधिया :** क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या रेलवे सुरक्षा पुलिस का पुनर्संगठन करने के लिये कोई योजना कार्यान्वित की जा रही है ;

(ख) नई योजना के अधीन क्या इस यूनिट को नई शक्तियां दी गई हैं, या दी जाने वाली हैं; और

(ग) इस यूनिट के कैडर का ब्यौरा क्या है ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन मंत्री के सभा सचिव (श्री शाहनवाज खां): (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) सवाल नहीं उठता ।

(ग) विवरण सभा-पटल पर रख दिया गया है । [देखिये परिशिष्ट १०, अनुबन्ध संख्या १२]

TELCO

*1925. **Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the facilities granted to TELCO by Government are being utilised for other purposes also by that company ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): Besides locomotives and boilers, TELCO used to manufacture road rollers and Railway Carriage underframes and is manufacturing Diesel Trucks now. Some of the facilities in the Factory are commonly used and to the extent such common facilities are actually utilized for other types of manufacture, overhead expenses of the Factory chargeable to the locomotive and boiler manufacture are reduced.

रेलवे की जमीन

*१९२७. **श्री बलवन्त सिंह महता :** क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) रेलवे के अधिकार में कुल कितनी भूमि है ;

(ख) उसमें कृषि योग्य पड़ती भूमि का क्षेत्रफल क्या है ; और

(ग) क्या उस भूमि को लीज पर देने का कोई प्रस्ताव है ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन मंत्री के सभा सचिव (श्री शाहनवाज खां) : (क) और (ख). शायद माननीय सदस्य का मतलब स्टेशनों के बीच रेलवे लाइन के दोनों तरफ की जमीन से है । रेलवे के पास इस समय ऐसे कुल कितने एकड़ जमीन है इसकी सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है और मिलने पर सभा-पटल पर रखदी जायेगी ।

(ग) जी हां, रेलवे की फालतू जमीन किसानों को लगान पर उठाने के लिये राज्य सरकारों को सौंप दी जाती है ।

Automotisation of Calcutta Telephones

*1928. **Shri H.N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Telephone Operators, Engineering staff and other employees working in the Telephone Department, Calcutta will become surplus after the completion of the different stages of the automotisation scheme;

(b) if so, their number; and

(c) whether there are any schemes for their absorption in the Department ?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) Telephone Operators . 734
Engineering staff . Nil

Other employees consisting of installation workmen and daily rated mazdoor . 260

(c) Yes. The scheme is to provide the surplus operators with alternative employment in the Department. As regards installation workmen and daily-rated mazdoors temporarily employed o automotisation work, attempts will be made to provide them in available vacancie so ly to the extent possible.

Indian Shipping

*1929. **Shri S.N. Das:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the operation of the Statute and Convention of International Regime of Maritime Ports, 1923, of which India is a member is adversely affecting the development of Indian shipping;

(b) if so, whether this question has been considered by Government;

(c) the provisions of the Statute, which stand in the way; and

(d) the countries that have accepted this convention ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

(d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 13]

Fumigation Plant

*1930. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a fumigation plant has been presented to the Government of Afghanistan by the Government of India ?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A.P. Jain): Not yet. It is however, proposed to present a fumigation plant to the Government of Afghanistan by the end of this year.

Warehouses

*1931. **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the jute growing States have asked the Union Government for financial assistance to construct suitable warehouses at the important marketing centres of jute;

(b) if so, the amount of assistance given for this purpose; and

(c) the number of such warehouses constructed so far ?

The minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A.P. Jain): (a) The Jute growing States have not asked for assistance specifically for jute warehouses as the general warehousing plans of the States will take care of Jute amongst other commodities.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Coal mines Bonus scheme

*1932. **Shri T.B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to extend the Coal Mines Bonus Scheme of 1948 to the workers of coal mines in Assam;

(b) if so, when;

(c) the expendilure to be incurred in case this Scheme is enforced there; and

(d) the reasons for their exclusion from this scheme so far ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): (a) and (b) A scheme called the Assam Coal Mines Bonus Scheme, 1955, will come into force in the coal mines of Assam with effect from the 1st October 1955. A copy of the Scheme is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

(c) It is too soon to estimate the expenditure to be incurred by the colliery owners consequent on the introduction of the Bonus Scheme.

Quarterly system of bonus provided under the Coal Mines Bonus Scheme of 1948 was not considered to be advantageous to colliery workers in Assam. Hence a separate Scheme providing weekly system of bonus for daily-rated employees and quarterly bonus for monthly-rated employees had to be devised.

Storm Detecting Radar

*1933. **Shri M. Islamuddin:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Storm Detecting Radar for modernising the observational outfit at New Delhi airport has been purchased;

(b) if so, its price; and

(c) if not, when it is likely to be purchased ?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Necessary indent for procuring the equipment has ben placed and it is expected to be received in about a year's time.

यात्रियों को सुविधायें

*१९३४. **श्री बलवन्त सिंह महता** : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात का पता है जब गाड़ियां स्टेशनों पर ठहरती हैं तब यात्री सामान्यतया शौचादि करते हैं, और इस तरह स्थान को गन्दा तथा वायु मंडल को दूषित बना देते हैं ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार रखती है ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन मंत्री के सभा सचिव (श्री शाहनवाज खां) : (क) जी हां, लेकिन कुछ थोड़े से यात्री ऐसा करते हैं ।

(ख) डिब्बों में नोटिस लगा कर यात्रियों से प्रार्थना की जाती है कि जब गाड़ी स्टेशन पर खड़ी हो तो संडास का इस्तेमाल न करें ।

Railway Employees

*1935. **Shri H.N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the total strength of the staff working at Sakrigalighat on the Eastern Railway;

(b) the total number of staff quarters provided there at present;

(c) whether it is a fact that some members of the staff have to live there in wagons ; and

(b) if so, their number ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) 1453.

(b) 345.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) 87.

Suburban Advisory Committee

992. **Shri Gidwani :** Will the Minister of **Railway** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chairman, Railway Board, had announced in the Press Conference in Bombay on the 19th March, 1955 that a Suburban Advisory Committee will be constituted soon;

(b) if so, when it will be constituted;

(c) the functions thereof; and

(d) the names of the Members of the Committee ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes. It is porposed to provide Suburban Passenger Amenities Committees at Calcutta, Bombay and Madras.

(b) to (d) These matters are being finalised.

Public Call Office at Ghatal

993. **Shri N.B. Chowdhury:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed Public Call Office at Ghatal has started functioning; and

(b) if not, when it is likely to start work ?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). The proposal has been dropped for the time being, in view of the heavy outlay and loss involved. It will be reexamined early next year.

Family Planning

994. **Shri V.B. Gandhi:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to accelerate the programme of family planning ; and

(b) if so, the amount proposed to be provided for this purpose under the Second Five Year Plan ?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) Yes.

(b) The question is still under consideration.

Fishing Craft Training

995. Shri N. B. Chowdhury: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 380 on the 3rd August, 1955 and state:

(a) the facilities proposed to be given to the trainees in the handling of fishing craft worked by engines; and

(b) the names and nationalities of foreign experts who are imparting training to the trainees ?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A.P. Jain): (a) Facilities are being provided to study existing crafts and tackle, principles of naval architecture, seamanship and navigation, operations and maintenance of marine diesel engines and fishing operations from mechanised craft. Stipends, food allowances and accommodation are also provided to the trainees.

(b) Mr. P.A. Lusyne, who is a Belgian.

Huban Clover

996. Shri Deogam: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that seeds of "Huban Clover" are now being multiplied in India; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to distribute these seeds to the various States for utilising it as green manure ?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A.P. Jain): (a) The I.C.A.R. has taken up neither research nor multiplication of Huban clover. However, it is understood that in Uttar Pradesh, during 1954 experiments were carried out by the State Government with this forage plant (seeds were procured from U.S.A.) to find out its suitability for growing in rotation with late paddy. It is understood that about 5 maunds of seed were produced last year. No information is available with the Government of India regarding furher developments, if any, in the matter.

(b) Does not arise.

Ticketless Travelling

997. Shri Deogam: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that in the District of Singhbhum in Bihar, the number of ticketless travellers is greater in passenger trains on the New Year Day;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Railway Authorities find it beyond their control to check ticketless travelling on that day; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken in the matter ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) A large number of local people travel without tickets in Raikharsawan-Gua Branch of the South-Eastern Railway in the Singhbhum District on this day.

(b) Local people travel in large numbers to meet their friends and relatives, treating the day as a festival.

(c) Special staff are deputed to deal with the large volume of traffic and to apprehend the ticketless travellers. Police assistance is also obtained. But in view of the very large number of passengers, however, it has not been found possible to exercise complete checks.

(d) Steps are proposed to be taken with greater police assistance, to make the checks more and more effective.

Freight on Iron Ore

998. Shri Deogam: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to reduce the Railway freight on iron ores in certain cases ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

बिना टिकट यात्रा

९९९. **श्री देवगम** : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) १९५४ में ऐसे कितने मामले पकड़े गये जिन में टिकट चैकर और अन्य रेलवे कर्मचारियों ने यात्रियों के स्वयं पैसे हड़प कर बिना टिकट यात्रा करने म सहायता दी ;

(ख) ऐसे मामलों में कितने कर्मचारी गिरफ्तार किये गये ;

(ग) कितने व्यक्तियों को दण्ड दिया गया ; और

(घ) उन्हें किस प्रकार की सजायें दी गईं ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन उपमंत्री (श्री अलगेशन) : (क) २५

(ख) ३

(ग) १६

(घ) किस तरह दंड दिया गया	दंडित कर्मचारियों की संख्या
नौकरी से हटाये गये	३
वेतन में सालाना तरक्की रोकी गई	९
पद गिराया गया	१
लानत-मलामत की गई	२
चेतावनी दी गई	१
जोड़	१६

नये रेलवे स्टेशन

१०००. श्री देवगम : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को यह बात मालूम है कि सिंहभूम जिले के राजखरसावन और गुआ के बीच दो नये स्टेशन अर्थात् सिंहपुखरिया और तालाबुरू बनाये गये हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो ये स्टेशन कब बनाये गये थे ;

(ग) क्या सरकार को यह बात मालूम है कि इन दो स्टेशन पर बुकिंग आफिसों के न होने के कारण यात्री बिना टिकट यात्रा करते हैं ; और

(घ) क्या सरकार को यह बात भी मालूम है कि टिकट चेकर बिना टिकट यात्रा करने वाले यात्रियों से पैसे ले लेते हैं ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन उपमंत्री (श्री अलगेशन) : (क) चौबासा और झिकपानी अपनी के बीच सिंहपुखरिया एक ट्रान्सपोटशन क्रासिंग स्टेशन (transportation cros ing station) है और झिकपानी और कैंडपोसी के बीच तालाबुरू इसी तरह का दूसरा स्टेशन है। ये दोनों स्टेशन राजखरसावन-गुआ शाखा पर हैं। ये स्टेशन अभी यातायात के लिये खोले नहीं गये हैं।

(ख) ये १५-७-१९४९ को बनाये गये थे।

(ग) और (घ). कुछ लोग इन स्टेशनों पर गाड़ियों में चढ़ जाते हैं ; लेकिन टिकट-परीक्षक मुनासिब किराया ले कर उनके लिये अतिरिक्त-किराया-टिकट (excess fare ticket) बना देते हैं। टिकट घर खोलने का प्रबन्ध किया जा रहा है।

रेल के किराये

१००१. श्री देवगम : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या ऐसे मामलों का पता चला है जिन में बुकिंग क्लर्कों ने यात्रियों से रेलवे टिकटों पर छपे हुये किराये से अधिक धन लिया हो ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस मामले में क्या कार्यवाही की गई ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन उपमंत्री (श्री अलगेशन) : (क) कभी-कभी इस तरह की शिकायतें मिलती हैं।

(ख) जिन कर्मचारियों के खिलाफ़ शिकायत साबित हो जाती है उन पर अनुशासन की कार्यवाही की जाती है।

इसकी रोक-थाम के लिये निगरानी रखने वाले कर्मचारियों से खास तौर पर कहा गया है कि व समय समय पर जांच करते रहें और बिना सूचना दिये भी खिड़कियों पर जा कर देखें कि यात्रियों से अधिक किराया नहीं लिया जा रहा है । साथ ही, टिकट बांटने के लिये कुछ और खिड़कियां खोली गई हैं और टिकट बाबू रख गय हैं । कुछ शहरों में नगर टिकट-घर भी खोले गय हैं जिससे टिकट लेते समय खिड़कियों पर भीड़ न हो और यात्रियों से अधिक किराया लेने का मौका न मिले ।

Bridge over the Narbada

1002. Shri Kamath: Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 385 on the 17th August, 1955 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to build another road bridge over the Narbada river at Hoshangabad where traffic is served by a ferry at present;

(b) if so the exact site where the bridge is proposed to be built;

(c) when the construction work will begin; and

(d) when it is likely to be completed?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes.

(b) The site of the bridge is under consideration in consultation with the State Government.

(c) and (d). Cannot be stated definitely at this stage.

डाक सम्बन्धी प्रतिबन्ध (पुर्तगाली भारत)

१००३. **{श्री कृष्णाचार्य जोशी :**
श्री जेठालाल जोशी :

क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पुर्तगाली भारत में वहां की वर्तमान परिस्थिति के कारण किस प्रकार के डाक सम्बन्धी प्रतिबन्ध लगाये गये हैं ; और हैं ; और

(ख) वहां पर मनीआर्डरों को भेजने के लिये आजकल क्या प्रबन्ध है ?

संचार उपमंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : (क) भारत सरकार के पास इसको कोई सूचना नहीं है ।

(ख) पुर्तगाली भारत के साथ मनी-आर्डर व्यवस्था आजकल प्रचलित नहीं है ।

Medical Facilities For Seamen

1004. Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) the medical facilities provided for the seamen at the various Ports in India; and

(b) whether regular medical examination of seamen is conducted by Government doctors ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) A statement giving the required information is attached. [*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 14]

(b) Yes.

Passenger Amenities

1005. Shri Jhulan Sinha: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 176 on the 25th November, 1953 and state:

(a) whether the proposal for an additional passenger hall at Dighwa-Dobowli has since been examined; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The work of extending the waiting hall accommodation at Dighwa-Dobowli is already in progress.

Vanaspati

1006. Shri Ibrahim: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the total quantity of Vanaspati produced from January to April, 1955 ?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): 77,548tons.

P. & T. Staff

1007. Shri Ibrahim: Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of permanent and temporary clerks in the Posts and Telegraphs Department in Bihar;

(b) the total number of Scheduled Castes employees in permanent and temporary services, respectively;

(c) whether the Scheduled Caste employees represent fully the seats reserved for them in the services; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):

	Permanent	*Temporary*
(a)	1822	767
(b)	53	52

(c) No, not yet.

(d) The reservation being of comparatively recent origin it will take some time more to achieve this.

Institute of Hygiene and Public Health

1008. Shri S. C. Samanta: Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health has a statistical department of its own; and

(b) if so, the nature of statistics kept or collected by it?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar) (a) Yes.

(b) The statistics collected by the department are those which are necessary for its teaching and research purposes. The department offers training in vital statistics and statistical methods for students of the D.P.H. (Diploma in Public Health), Diploma in Maternity and Child Welfare, Certificate in Public Health Nursing, Diploma in Indust ial Health, Master of Engineering (Public Health), and other courses conducted by the Institute.

The research activities of the department are varied. It gives assistance to medical and public health workers in the statistical design of their research and in the statistical interpretation of the data. It also carries out independent research in the devising of new statistical tools which could be used in the medical and biological fields, and carries out analysis of statistics from hospitals or other sources.

C.T.O.

1009. Shri Sivamurthi Swami: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the acreage of land reclaimed by the Central Tractor Organistation in 1954-55, State-wise; and

(b) the income derived from that Organisation during the same period?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The acreages reclaimed during the 1954-55 operational season are as follows:

Uttar Pradesh	49,075
Madhya Pradesh	58,712
Madhya Bharat	51,684
Bhopal	26,802
Assam	975
	1,87,248 acres

The figures are provisional and subject to correction on the basis of resurveys which are being carried out.

(b) The income due for the work done in 1954-55 is Rs. 1,09,45,000/-. Recoveries have yet to be made.

Crimes on Railways

1010. {Pandit D. N. Tiwary: / Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in May 1955, at Lohna Road Station on the North-Eastern Railway, the guard of a train was prevented from accompanying the train for Nirmali and the train went without a guard;

(b) whether any enquiry has been made in the matter; and

(c) the steps taken against the miscreants in this regard?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) It is a fact that 339 Up train of 15-5-55 ran from Lohna Road station to the next station, Jhan Jharpur, without the Guard; but he was not forcibly prevented from accompanying the train. While the Guard; went out to seek the Station Master's assistance to clear the luggage compartment of his brake van of passengers who had got into it due to a great rush, the driver started the train resulting in the Guard being left behind.

(b) Yes.

(c) As responsibility could not be fixed on any passenger specifically no action could be taken.

Indian Telephone Industries

1011. Chaudhuri Muhammed Shaffee: Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone sets manufactured by the telephone factories in India since the 1st January, 1955;

(b) the number of applications received by Government for telephone connections since the 1st January, 1955; and

(c) the number of the applications rejected and the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) The Indian Telephone Industries Ltd. manufactured 23,425 telephone instruments between 1-1-55 to 30-6-55.

(b) The number of applications received during the period was 17,173.

(c) Applications which cannot be complied with immediately are not rejected, but brought on to waiting list. The total number of applicants who were provided with connection during the period was 10,288. Others could not be provided due to want of spare capacity of Exchanges and cable pairs etc.

Ticketless Travelling

1012. Shri Raghunath Singh: Will Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state the number of ticketless travellers detected during 1954-55

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): 7,586,808.

Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund

1013. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to stute:

(a) the number of nurses employed in the Central Hospital, Dhanbad, managed by the Coal Mine Labour Welfare Fund Organisation;

(b) their working hours and the remuneration paid to them; and

(c) whether residential quarters have been provided to all of them?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): (a) and (b) A statement is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. (*See* Appendix X, annexure No. 15]

(c) Yes.

Textile Committee of the I.L.O.

1014. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state the names and other details of the employers' and employees' delegates who will represent India at the Fifth Session of the Textiles Committee of the I. L.O. to be held in Geneva during the last week of September, 1955 ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): The personnel of the delegation is under consideration.

हिन्दी में तार

१०१५. **श्री अनिरुद्ध सिंह** : क्या **संचार** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पटना जनरल पोस्ट आफ़िस में हिन्दी के तारों के लिये जो कर्मचारी सेवायुक्त हैं, उनकी संख्या उस काम के लिये अपर्याप्त है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस मामले में सरकार क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार करती है ?

संचार उपमंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) यह प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Employees State Insurance Scheme

1016. Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury: Will the Ministrer of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of factories and factory employees covered by the Employees State Insurance Scheme so far; and

(b) the specific industries to which this scheme has been made applicable so far

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): (a) About 4,000 factories and 9,23,000 employees have been covered so far ?

(b) The application of the Scheme is not confined to selected industries but to factories as defined in the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948; in selected areas.

Branch Post Masters

1017. Shri Dhusiya: Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Branch Post Masters in Gorakhpur Division at present; and

(b) the number amongst them belonging to Scheduled Castes ?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a)

Departmental	1
Extra-Departmental	447
(b) Departmental	Nil.
Extra-Departmental	1

रेलगाड़ियों का चलना

*१०१८. **श्री बी० डी० शास्त्री** : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि भटिण्डा-अम्बाला लाइन पर कौलसाहारी स्टेशन पर आने जाने वाली सभी ट्रनों को यात्री रोक लेते हैं, ताकि वे चतुर्भुजी शिशु को देख सकें; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस विषय में क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन उपमंत्री (श्री अलगेशन) : (क) १२-८-५५ और १७-८-५५ के बीच यात्रियों ने कुछ गाड़ियों को रोक लिया था।

(ख) अपराधियों का पता लगाने की कोशिश की गई, लेकिन चूंकि किसी यात्री यह नहीं बतलाया कि किन लोगों ने गाड़ी रोकी थी, इसलिय कोई कार्यवाही न की जा सकी।

तम्बाकू कारखाना

१०१९. **डा० सत्यवादी** : क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंग कि १०५४-५५ में कितन कारखान तम्बाकू कारखाने के रूप में काम कर रहे थे तथा उन में कितने मजदूर काम करते थे।

श्रम मंत्री (श्री खंडूभाई देसाई) : १९५४ की आखिरी छमाही में देश में तम्बाकू के १,६८६ रजिस्टर्ड कारखाने थे जिन म प्रतिदिन औसतन १,०१,०४६ कामगर काम करते थे।

Central Co-Operative Organisations

1020. **Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) which of the Central Co-operative Organisations in Bihar have not been utilized for stocking and distribution of foodgrains by the authorities in charge of flood relief work; and

(b) the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b) No Central Co-operative Society was appointed by Bihar Government as a Storing Agent for foodgrains in flood-affected areas as none offered their services inspite of wide publicity given to invitations for appointment of Storing Agents. A large number of retail distributing agents were appointed in flood-affected areas and while Co-operative Soc e ies and Gram Panchayats were given preference by the Bihar Governmert, information is not readily available as to how many Co-operative Societies were appointed as retail distributing agents.

छपरा रेलवे स्टेशन

१०२३. **श्री एम० एन० सिंह** : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) उत्तर पूर्वी रेलवे के छपरा, समस्तीपुर और सोनपुर स्टेशनों पर २४ घंटे में कितनी पैसिंजर गाड़ियां आती जाती हैं; और

(ख) १९५३, १९५४ में और अगस्त १९५५ तक उपरोक्त प्रत्येक स्टशन पर आने जाने वाले यात्रियों की औसतन संख्या क्या थी ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन उपमंत्री (श्री अलगेशन) : (क)

स्टेशन का नाम	आने वाली सवारी गाड़ियां	जाने वा ी सवारी गाड़ियां
छपरा	२४	२४
समस्तीपुर	२५	२५
सोनपुर	२६	२६

(ख) रोज जाने वाले यात्रियों की संख्या

	१९५३	१९५४	१९५५ (अगस्त तक)
छपरा	२३१३	२१९६	२४३०
समस्तीपुर	२६००	२७७०	२८९०
सोनपुर	११९८	८०३	१४१७

रोज आने वाले यात्रियों की संख्या

१९५३	१९५४	१९५५ (अगस्त तक)

आने वालों की संख्या लगभग उतनी ही है जितनी यहां से जाने वाले यात्रियों की।

जन पथ प्रदर्शक (सोशल गाईड)

१०२२. **श्री एम० एन० सिंह** : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उत्तरपूर्वी रेलवे के छपरा, समस्तीपुर और सोनपुर के रेलवे स्टेशनों पर कितने जन पथ प्रदर्शक नियुक्त किये गये हैं ;

(ख) उन्हें प्रति दिन कुल कितने घंटे काम करना पड़ता है ; और

(ग) रेलवे स्टेशनों पर यात्रियों की सहायता करने के लिये जन पथ-प्रदर्शकों की नियुक्ति किस आधार पर की जाती है ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन उपमंत्री (श्री अलगेशन) : (क)

छपरा—	कोई नहीं
समस्तीपुर	३
सोनपुर	३

(ख) हर एक को ८ घंटे ।

(ग) सोशल गाईड (जो अब पैसेंजर गाईड कहलाते हैं) उन स्टेशनों पर रखे जाते हैं जहां बहुत से लोग गाड़ियां बदलते हैं या जहां अधिकतर तीर्थ यात्री और देहात के लोग भारी संख्या में आते जाते हैं । ऐसे लोगों को आम तौर पर रेलवे स्टेशनों और रेलवे द्वारा दी गई सुविधाओं की जानकारी न होन से विशष सहायता की जरूरत होती है ।

छपरा रेलवे स्टेशन पर पूछताछ कार्यालय

१२२३. **श्री म० एन० सिंह** : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे के समस्तीपुर और सोनपुर स्टेशनों के पूछताछ कार्यालयों के कर्मचारियों की अपेक्षा छपरा स्टेशन के पूछताछ कार्यालय म कमचारी कम हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसका क्या कारण है ; और

(ग) इन कर्मचारियों के काम के घंटे क्या हैं ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन उपमंत्री (श्री अलगेशन) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) सवाल नहीं उठता ।

(ग) रोज दो पारियां लगती हैं, एक ६ बजे सुबह से २ बज दिन तक और दूसरी २ बजे दिन से १० बजे रात तक ।

Absenteeism in Mining Industries

1024. Shri N. B. Chowdhury: Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of absenteeism in coal fields during the period from April to August, 1955; and

(b) how these figures compare with the figures of absenteeism in other mineral industries such as gold and mica?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai) (a) The information is available upto June 1955 and is as follows:

April, 55	14.24%
May, 55	14.01%
June, 55	14.13%

The figures of absenteeism in coal mines are regularly published in the Monthly Coal Bulletin.

(b) The rate of absenteeism in coal mines is slightly higher than that in Gold Mines as shown in the statement below in respect of the months of January to March 1955 the figures for which are available. No separate figures for mica mines are available.

Absenteeism in:—

	Coal Mines	*Gold Mines*
January,55	14.26%	13.6%
February, 55	12.85%	12.4%
March,55	14.78%	13.0%

These figures are also published in the Indian Labour Gazette.

Sports

1025. Shri K. K. Das: Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance given by Government to the following sports organizations during 1954-55 and 1955-56, so far:—

(1) National Sports Club of India

(2) All India Lawn Tennis Association

(3) Table Tennis Association of India;

(b) the purposes for which the grants have been given; and

(c) the conditions attached; if any?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) The following financial assistance has been given to the sports organizations referred to during 1954-55 and 1955-56:—

Name of the Organisation	*Financial assistance given during 1954-55 and 1955-56, so far.*	
	1954-55	1955-56
(1) The Rajkumari Sports Coaching Scheme.	Rs. 2.0 lakhs	Rs. 2.0 lakhs
(2) All India Lawn Tennis Association	Nil	Rs. 17,210
(3) Table Tennis-Association of India.	Rs. 4,310	Nil.

(b) (1) For Coaching in Sports.

(2) Rs. 10,000 for the Asian Lawn Tennis Championship, and Rs. 7,210 for Davis Cup Matches.

(3) For competing in Asian Table Tennis Championship.

(c) The conditions attached to each of these grants are:—

(*i*) that the detailed accounts are furnished in respect of the grants paid;

(*ii*) that the utilisation certificate is furnished when the amount is spent; and

(*iii*) that the amount is utilised during the financial year in which it is granted.

Strike in Tea Gardens

1026. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:**
Shri K. K. Basu:
Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:
Shri B. C. Das:
Shri G. L. Chaudhury:
Shri M. Islamuddin:

Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that workers of tea gardens in Alipore Dooars and Terai are on strike;

(b) if so, the number of wokers involved and their demands; and

(c) the number of gardens affected?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): (a) to (c). According to a report received from the Government of West Bengal a strike was launched towards the end of August, 1955 by a number of tea garden workers in Dooars and Terai concerning their demands such as revision of wages, bonus, extension of the Provident Fund Scheme to the tea industry supply of fuel, revision of Standing Orders, hours of work, holidays, etc. In Dooars, nearly 80,000 workers were on strike on 30-8-55 in 89 gardens of which 56 were on complete strike and 33 on partial strike In Terai 17 gardens were on complete strike and 5 on partial strike on the 31-8-55. The strike was called off on 8-9-55 in Terai area and also in certain gardens of Dooars and on that date only about 7000 workers in 11 gardens of Kalchini area and 1 garden in Alipore Dooars were orstrike.

रेलवे कर्मचारी

१०२७. **श्री विभूति मिश्र** : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि मुजफ्फरपुर (उत्तर पूर्वी रेलवे) में महत्वपूर्ण कर्मचारी जैसे गार्ड और सहायक स्टेशन मास्टर को रहने के लिये क्वार्टर नहीं मिले हैं जब कि साधारण कर्मचारी जैसे क्लर्कों आदि को क्वार्टर मिले हुये हैं ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो गार्डों और सहायक स्टेशन मास्टरों को वहां अब तक क्या सुविधा दी गई हैं ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन उपमंत्री (श्री अलगेशन) : (क) और (ख). जी नहीं। मुजफ्फरपुर के सभी सहायक स्टेशन मास्टरों को मकान दे दिये गये हैं लेकिन अभी तक सब गार्डों को मकान नहीं मिल सके हैं। रीजनल आफ़िस के कुछ क्लर्कों को भी मकान दे दिये गये हैं। जो खास तौर पर उन्हीं के लिए बनाये गये थे। १९ में से ४ गार्डों को और ६ सहायक स्टेशन मास्टरों में सभी को मुजफ्फरपुर में मकान दे दिये गए हैं। तीन सहायक स्टेशन मास्टर अभी तक इन मकानों में नहीं जा सके हैं, क्योंकि उन में रहने वालों ने अभी तक मकान खाली नहीं किये हैं।

19th March, 1955 (Monday)

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(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIA
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LOK SABHA

Monday, 19th September, 1955.

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the chair*]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

12 NOON.

PRESIDENTS ASSENT TO BILLS

Secretary: Sir, I have to inform the House that the following Bills, which were passed by the Houses of Parliament during the current Session, have been assented to by the President:

1. The Industrial and State Financial Corporations (Amendment) Bill, 1955.

2. The Industrial Disputes (Appellate Tribunal) Amendment Bill, 1955.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:

'I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 15th September, 1955, has passed the enclosed motion referring the River Boards Bill, 1955, to a Joint Committee of the Houses and to request that the concurrence of the Lok Sabha in the said motion and the names of the Members of the Lok Sabha to be appointed to the said Joint Committee may be communicated to this House.

Motion

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of River Boards for the regulation and development of inter-State rivers and river valleys be referred to a Joint Committee of the Houses consisting of 45 Members, 15 Members from this House, namely:

1. Shri G. Ranga
2. Shri M. Govinda Reddy
3. Shri S. Venkataraman
4. Shri Jagannath Prasad Agrawal
5. Shri H. P. Saksena
6. Shri Krishnakant Vyas
7. Syed Mazhar Imam
8. Shri M. H. S. Nihal Singh
9. Shri Jagannath Das
10. Shri Vijay Singh
11. Shri N. D. M. Prasadarao
12. Shri Surendra Mahanty
13. Shri S. N. Dwivedy
14. Shri N. R. Malkani
15. Shri Jai Sukh Lal Hathi

and 30 Members from the Lok Sabha;

that in order to constitute a meeting of the Joint Committee the quorum shall be one-third of the total number of Members of the Joint Committee;

that in other respects, the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to Select Committees shall apply with such variations and modifications as the Chairman may make;

that this House recommends to the Lok Sabha that the Lok Sabha do join the said Joint Committee and communicate to this House the names of members to be appointed by the Lok Sabha to the Joint Committee; and

that the Committee shall make a report to this House by the 21st November, 1955".'

HINDU SUCCESSION BILL

The Minister of Legal Affairs (Shri Pataskar): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report of the Joint Committee on the Bill to amend and codify the law relating to intestate succession among Hindus, pending in Rajya Sabha.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPROTANCE

STARVATION IN FLOOD-STRICKEN DISTRICTS OF U.P.

Shri S. L. Saksena (Gorakpur Distt. North): Under Rule 216, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Food and Agriculture to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"starvation in flood-stricken districts of Eastern Uttar Pradesh."

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): According to information available with the Government, there is no starvation in the flood stricken areas of Gorakhpur, Debria, Basti and other districts of Eastern Uttar Pradesh. It is also not correct that the State Government have stopped distribution of gratuitous relief in flood affected areas in Uttar Pradesh.

The Government of Uttar Pradesh took precautionary measures as early as in May i.e. three months before floods, to meet the flood manace. A sum of Rs. 1,60,000 at the rate of Rs. 10,000 was placed at the disposal of 16 usually flood-affected districts including Basti, Deoria and Gorakhpur for making advance arrangements and for providing relief in case of necessity. Flood posts were established equipped with essential articles such as gram, gur, salt, match boxes, kerosene oil, medicines and fodder for the cattle.

A sum of Rs. 1,95,000 was also placed by the Chief Minister at the disposal of certain districts including Basti, Deoria and Gorakhpur for construction of buildings to provide shelter to persons affected by floods.

This year's floods were caused by very heavy rains for 4 days from 19th to 22nd July, 1955. This resulted in tremendous water logging in such areas which were served by small rivulets and local rivers which could not drain off this huge quantity of surplus water in reasonable time. This could not be averted despite steps taken by the State Government in advance in May this year. The latest information, however, shows that the position is improving everywhere.

The amounts so far given to the districts by the State Government for help in the flood affected areas are given below:

	(Rs.)
Gratuitous Relief	22,00,000
Subsidy for reconstruction of houses	10,50,000
Subsidy for Bhusa	1,85,000
Taqavi under Act XII including reconstruction of houses (interest free).	1,09,03,860
Loans to Non-agriculturists for reconstruction of houses (interest free).	10,50,000
Allotments out of the CM's Distress Relief Fund for contruction of houses in the flood affected areas.	1,95,000
Allotments from Prime Minister's Relief Fund.	77,500
TOTAL	1,55,47,860

In addition Rs. 6 lakhs have been sanctioned for test works.

Arrangements had been made to rush stocks of foodgrains, salt, sugar etc., to these districts. Milk powder is also being distributed to children and infirm people. Stocks of wheat and jowar purchased on behalf of the Central Government were released for distribution in consultation with the Government of India at the concessional rate of 3¼ Seers per rupee for wheat and 5½ seers per rupee for jowar. All the incidental charges for handling and transport etc. were being borne by the Government. About 85,000 maunds of wheat and jowar have so far been sent by the U.P. Government to flood-affected districts. The movement of foodgrains through trade channels has also been quite substantial with the increase in the availability of foodgrains in the market and the demand for foodgrains from Government shops has decreased to some extent.

People everywhere are courageously trying to save crops or to sow fresh crops. Efforts are being made by Government to provide those who are without any means of subsistance with some work so that they could earn their livelihood. Works are being expedited; some of them, such as roads, bridges, canals, public buildings etc., which are included in the Second Five Year Plan are being started ahead of schedule. Other possible avenues of employment are also being explored.

Allegations about some starvation deaths in district Deoria were brought to the notice of the State Government sometime ago but the inquiry made from the local authorities revealed that these were baseless.

Shri S. L. Saksena: Is the hon. Minister aware of....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. No supplementaries are allowed.

MOTION *RE.* REPORTS OF COMMISSIONER FOR SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES FOR 1953 AND 1954

Mr. Speaker: The House will now resume further discussion on the Reports of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for 1953 and 1954.

Out of 10 hours allotted for the discussion of both the Reports, about 8 hours and 15 minutes have already been availed of—excluding 2 hours and 38 minutes, taken on Friday last from the time allotted for the Private Members' Business. This means about 1 hour and 45 minutes are now available for the discussion which will conclude by about 1-45 P.M. today. Thereafter the House will take up the discussion on the White Paper on General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade for which 6 hours have been allotted. As already decided, the House will sit upto 6 P.M. today.

I understand that the hon. Defence Minister wishes to say something on the Reports of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, so far as his Ministry is concerned. He will take about 15 minutes and not more than that. For the reply at the end, the Deputy Home Minister will take about 45 minutes. That means, between the two, they will take one hour. Forty-five minutes are, therefore, now available for further discussion. I will first call upon Dr. Katju.

The Minister of Defence (Dr. Katju): The two Reports which the House is discussing relate to the two years during which I had something to do with the Home Ministry and the topics with which the Reports deal at length have been very dear to my heart. I do not wish to deal with the main questions raised in the Reports; they had been dealt with adequately by the hon. Home Minister and will no doubt be dealt with further by my colleauge, the Deputy Home Minister. I should only like to express once again what I have said in this House many times *viz.*, that the road to progress, in my opinion, lies through more and more education and that Governments, both Central and State, should do the utmost to encourage the spread of education by scholarships and in a variety of ways. That is the first thing.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Secondly, so far as the removal of untouchability is concerned, I think it will be a mistake if we were to adopt a sort of an authoritative attitude of mind trying to remove untouchability. It is desirable that we should follow Gandhiji's method, that is the persuasive method. There is plenty of opportunity for work and plenty of room for work among the so-called higher classes, particularly in the rural areas.

I did not intervene in the debate for saying these elementary things. I have intervened to say something about the representation of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in our Armed Forces. Some hon. Members have discussed this matter and it is a matter of tremendous importance. I only wish to say as to what exactly the orbit of the problem is. The problem is not limited merely to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. It is a vaster problem: vaster in this sense.

[Dr. Katju]

When the British were wielding authority here, they had divided India practically into two parts. One they called the martial areas and the other they called non-martial areas. In the non-martial areas, they considered everybody living in that area,—no matter whether he was a high caste man or a low caste man—as unfit by tradition, by buildup, for a military career. It may be that when they were excluding non-martial areas they were also excluding among the people who were considered martial, the so-called Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Then, there is another tract of which scarce notice is taken in these discussions and that is a tract which has now been integrated with India. Scanty attention is paid to that part of the problem. Please remember that three-eighths of India,—I am not sure about the population—was under Indian States. Some of these States were big ones, resourceful ones. But, many of them, hundreds of them were petty little States, with a revenue of Rs. 30 lakhs or Rs. 40 lakhs or Rs. 13 lakhs or Rs. 2 lakhs. In Saurashtra, the number of small States was over 100, probably 200. Some of the big States like Hyderabad, Gwalior and Kashmir maintained their own State troops and there was therefore some military tradition there. It was open to the people residing in those States to join the army and have a military career. But, by far the very large number of smaller Indian States and the people residing therein were totally excluded from service in the Armed Forces. It is true that on paper there was nothing to prevent the resident of any Indian State, no matter how petty, to offer his services to the Army. Take, the State, my own birth-place, a tiny little State called Jaora. It was open to anyone residing in Jaora to offer himself for recruitment. But, no one did. I have received bitter complaints that even today in Madhya Bharat where Jaora is included recruitment is exceedingly scanty. Therefore the problem confronting me today in the Defence Ministry to equlise the opportunities. The fundamentals are quite clear. Every resident, every inhabitant of this great India of ours is entitled to an equal opportunity. It is one of his, and should be the most cherished, privilege, to offer himself for military service and thereby do his duty by the land: every one of the 36 crores. While you are concentrating your attention upon the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, my heart also goes out to the people living in the so-called non-martial areas in British India who have been excluded from military service for the last 200 years, ever since the battle of Plassey. Secondly, my heart also goes out to those people of the smaller Indian States which have now become part of Madhya Bharat, Rajasthan,—not so much in P.E.P.S.U.—Madhya Pradesh and Orissa. Probably hon. Members are aware that 26 States were included in Orissa in the integration. Even the names of these 26 States are not very well known to us. The population is 4 million and the area is about 29,000 square miles. They have been totally excluded from military service. I am most anxious that our recruitment should be broad based, to give equal and ample opportunity to each one, whether martial or non-martial, whether high caste or low caste, to offer his services. That is the overriding consideration.

The other consideration is that I cannot possibly take any risks. It is not a question of taking a man with minimum qualifications. What we want in the Army is physical fitness, a certain stature, a certain hardihood of temperament. We cannot accept any man if he does not come up to that standard. It does not concern us whether you are a brahmin or whether you are a member of the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes or whether you are a Hindu or non-Hindu. You are unfit, if you are not physically up to the standard. The whole question is how to proceed about. Let me assure the House one thing. So far as our standing instructions go,—I am not talking about the British times—ever since

1948, every single restriction has been withdrawn. Over and over again, the Army, Headquarters, the Naval Headquarters and the Air Headquarters have been told, and the recruiting officers have been told that our Army should be broad based, that it should cover every community, that it should cover not only every community, it should also cover every single tract of India. I do not want that the Army should be a Northern Army or a Southern Army or Eastern Army. It should include in its forces people drawn from all parts of India. There should only be physical fitness and nothing else.

Lastly, there should not be over-recruitment from any part. This is ancient history and this will have to be continued for some time. The British people raised, as hon. Members know, the Sikh Regiment, the Dogra Regiment, the Jat Regiment. They were based upon a sort of a class basis. They are all very proud regiments. I am very happy to go and mix with them. Their history goes back to 100 years, 150 years, 80 years and so on. They live like brothers. If I were to disturb them quickly, the morale will be affected. There will be displeasure. Leaving that aside, I suggest to all hon. Members here that the best way to proceed is promotion of physical fitness of our students and young men, and secondly, larger patronage of the National Cadet Corps and the Auxiliary Cadet Corps. These two bodies are open to all students irrespective of caste, creed or faith. Government is most anxious to spread the movement. The N.C.C., for instance, began with a few thousands, I think 30,000, some 8 years ago. Today, I am glad to say, it is 125,000. Our aims by the end of the next Five Year Plan are very wide. I should be very happy personally if every single student in the colleges were to attend the N.C.C. It will not be possible, because funds are not ample. It requires a vast organisation. But, I want a large expansion. Similarly in the Auxiliary Cadet Corps, where, please remember, it is not a question of military training: the boys live in camps and all distinctions of Scheduled Caste or non-Scheduled Caste or cread are completely forgotten. They live there a camp life. They dine there in camps. They live like brothers.

Now, the number of the Auxiliary Cadet Corps is very large—it is something like 7½ lakhs—and our ambition is to make it still larger. I suggest to you that hon. Members will consider this matter and will lend us their co-operation and will go about the country-side speading the message of these things.

And then, there is another matter which is of still greater importance. Probably hon. Members know that the Government has recently started a force which is called the National Volunteer Force. Formerly we had the territorials and territorials were open to every body. We thought that the territorials were a bit small and it must be expanded, because the aim is this I may say at once. We are not now, at present going in for conscription, but we are anxious that there should be military training imparted to all the citizens who require it and who offer for it. We are going in for the voluntary principles, but we are anxious that if a number of volunteers come we will engage them.

The National Voluntary Force is based upon training, military training —I repeat that—of a lakh of people every year, and the scheme that has been worked out is for the training of 5 lakhs of people from the year 1955 upto 1959, and I am very happy to say that the response has been most encouraging. Two hundred camps will be held througout India, each camp to accomodate 500 people drawn from urban areas and rural areas, drawn from all communities irrespective of, I repeat once again, caste and creed, and thereby we will be training a lakh of people every year. And hon. Members probably know that there is the camp life. They live like soldiers under canvas, just like jawans. They undergo training. They are given lectures, first-aid lectures. They are taught rifle shooting and all that.

I am suggesting that all Members interested in the Scheduled Castes and

[Dr. Katju]

Tribes and in the non-martial areas and in State areas like mine should take the fullest advantage of this National Volunteer Force, because if the demand is heavy, if the demand is encouraging, then I say we shall consider doubling it. Instead of one lakh will make it two lakhs, and it will be all to the good from the national point of view. It is desirable that there should be, if I may put it that way, a sort of reserves behind the Army, a large reserve, so that, God forbidding, whenever any emergency arises, we may be able to fall back upon it. And secondly, this training for one month, military training, drill and all that sort of thing and living together, also teaches you discipline and for Home Guards and for maintenance of law and order I entertain great hopes of this. Therefore, we have got this for which I ask the solid help, extensive help, vigorous help from each Member of this House and each Member of the State Legislature and from the public at large, for our National Cadet Corps movement, the Auxiliary Cadet Corps movement, our National Volunteer Force movement and our Territorial Army. The Territorial Army which you are familiar with is open to urban areas, is open to rural areas. I attach greater value to the National Volunter Force and to the National Cadet Corps because this curse of untouchability and of discriminations rests in the rural areas, and our National Volunteer Force is drawn mostly from the rural areas. I am prefectly certain that any single individual who comes and joins the National Volunteer Force and spends a month in the camp is completely washed free of all taints of untouchability and of, so to say, ideas about untouchability. I want that it should be....

Shri Velayudhan (Quilon *cum* Mavelikkara—Reserved—Sch. Castes): There is not even one per cent of these Scheduled Castes or Tribes employed there or recruited in the National Cadet Corps about which you are saying so much, too much. I feel that not even one per cent of the untouchables are there recruited by these people. You say all kinds of loud things which is not a fact.

Dr. Katju: The whole point is this. That is what I am saying. My hon. friend has not done me the honour of hearing me. My point is, you go and offer yourself.

Shri Velayudhan: Myself.

Dr. Katju: Not you, of course. You won't do it, I know. But the whole question is, let members of the Scheduled Castes offer themselves for this National Volunteer Force.

Shri Velayudhan: They will not select them, that is the difficulty. People who are recruiting them will not select them. Why don't you understand this?

Some Hon. Members: *rose*—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. All cannot talk at the same time. I shall give opportunity to all Members.

Dr. Katju: You let me know, you write to me. I shall see to it that the evil is remedied. I am only saying this.....

Shri Dhusiya (Basti Distt.—Central—East *Cum* Gorakhpur Distt.—West—Reserved—Sch. Castes): By the time you see, the time is gone.

Dr. Katju: The time is not gone. Time is still there. Camps are being held. (*interruptions*).

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. What I would urge upon the House is, it is a very important matter; there is no doubt about it. Hon. Members who have suggestions to make or questions to put up together and put some questions and the hon. Minister cannot answer. Let them hear the Minister. Time permitting, I will allow a few questions to be put, or whenever an hon. Member gets a turn, he may then speak also.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan (Krishnagiri): May I get one clarification?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Not now. Let the hon. Minister go on.

Dr. Katju: I wanted to go on only for a few minutes, but.....

Shri Ramananda Das (Barrackpore): Everybody hears the hon. Minister, but the hon. Minister does not hear anybody.

Dr. Katju: Under the scheme a lakh of people are being trained for the National Volunteer Force. Two-hundred camps will be raised in India. It is impossible to raise 200 camps at one and the same time. The procedure, therefore, has been adopted of raising something like 20 or 21 camps every month, barring the rainy season. About 30 or 40 camps have already been raised. The rest will be raised. And we have taken the precaution of locating these camps in different parts of each State. I repeat this offer once again, that all these camps are open to every section of the Community. If any hon. Member comes to know that the recruiting officer is making any distinction against any section of the community—I am not merely confining myself to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes—or the residents of any particular area or anything, he had better white to me, write to the commander of the local area, better to write to me direct, and I shall see to it that this thing is removed. Otherwise, the whole object will fail. That is all I wish to say.

So far as the Army is concerned, I quite realise that so far as the number of non-combatants is concerned, the number of Scheduled Castes people is fairly substantia—17 per cent in one place, 18 per cent in one place. What we call civilian employees or non-combatants are roughly about 50 per cent, but I quite realise that the criticism may be that this only refers to lower grades and the number of officers is not as much as it ought to be. But I do suggest once again that you are going now in colleges and schools in large numbers. Join the N.C.C. Show your guts there and from the National Cadet Corps the cadets are directly chosen without any examination to the extent of 10 per cent and trained in Kadakvasla in the National Defence Academy. The will is not wanting. My utmost anxiety is to make the Army as broad-based as I can, so that every single section of the community, whether they be Scheduled Castes, high castes, Hindus or Muslims etc., may say with pride, "this is our army, this is our Indian army."

Shri Kamath (Hoshangabad): On a point of clarification and further information, has not the position as regards recruitment improved in Jaora in particular, and Madhya Bharat in general, since the hon. Minister assumed charge? Secondly, what is the position as regards Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Navy—so far as ratings and officers are concerned—and in the Air Force.

Dr. Katju: The number is small, because there are qualifiactions, educational and otherwise. Firstly they attach great importance to physical fitness. I am sorry to say that the members of the Scheduled Castes do not at present come up to those standards. But the Navy is a very small Navy. The really important thing is the Armed Forces, that is, the Army.

Shri Kamath: My first question has not been answered. I wanted to know whether there has been an improvement in the recruitment position in Jaora in particular and Madhya Bharat in general.

Dr. Katju: My State? None whatsoever that I know of. I did not know that you were so much interested in Jaora.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether the system of recruitment, the procedure, the tests, physical and otherwise, the psychological examinations etc., are all even now based on the old system followed by the British, with the result that the selection is not being made for a national army or a national military force as was the case in the past? I do not know whether any re-examination of these things has been made by the hon. Minister or his Ministry either

[Shri Velayudhan]

now or even in the past. I have got my doubt whether the hon. Minister himself knows about this system at all.

Then, let me tell you further.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: How many questions is the hon. Member going to put?

Shri Velayudhan: I am coming to the second point.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Nobody can remember all the questions together.

Shri Velayudhan: This is connected with the other one. What is happening is that the recruitment is made by the officers in the services under the cover of all these tests etc. even now. Practically Government are deceived by the officers. The selection is made under the cover of all these tests, and there is a lot of favouritism and other things. I could give you one example.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I cannot allow the hon. Member to go on like this.

Dr. Katju: He is making a speech now.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He says that the present system of recruitment is not conducive to the object in view.

Dr. Katju: I entirely disagree, because I spent about four hours myself in Meerut to see this selection board business, and I found that they are not concerned with the community at all, nor are they concerned with the tract of the country from which a particular candidate comes. They are concerned only with the human being before them. They put him questions. They test him psychologically, and they put questions in that behalf, and all these questions are concerned with the personality of the candidate. Please remember that the army is not a joke. There may be a question of life and death, and therefore they put these questions.

Secondly, I should like to place before the House one other bit of information. The procedure for recruitment is this. First, there is a written examination held by the UPSC. Roughly, about 4,000 people sit in that examination. In that examination, a candidate has to obtain a certain stated number of marks, before he can be called for the interview. The total number of marks is about 900 out of which 40 percent at least has to be secured by a cadidate before he can be called for interview. Then, there are casualities before the selection board, in the psychological examination and other things. And the largest casualities after that are in before the medical board, because the medical boards are very much insistent on physical fitness; and I am sorry to say that most of our young men, irrespective of class and creed, irrespective of whether they are Brahmins, Muslims and so on, do not come up to the physical standards expected. Therefore, I want to disabuse the mind of my hon. friend opposite, when he says that the system of recruitment is some sort of an antediluvian system loaded against the Scheduled Caste and the poor people.

Shri Velayudhan: I did not say that. I said, it is so far all.

Dr. Katju: I say therefore that the system is perfectly all right.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: My hon. friend Shri Velayudhan said a little while ago that the number of entrants into the NCC was very low. May I know whether that is due to the fact that enough number of candidates did not offer themselves, or whether it is so because the candidates have been found to be unfit after they have offered themselves?

Dr. Katju: I am very happy to say that there has been a tremendous awakening on the part of the students. So far as the reports that I have received are concerned, they show that the students are eager to join the NCC; it is the financial trouble, or I may say, want of financial equilibrium that stands in the way. We are trying to straighten that out

At present, 50 per cent. of the cost is borne by the Centre, and 50 per cent by the States, and naturally the States jib at it a little. But I am trying to study the position, and I hope that the NCC will expand greatly during the next Five Year Plan period.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: You are referring to the Scheduled Castes?

Dr. Katju: Of course.

श्री वाल्मीकि (जिला बुलन्दशहर-रक्षित-अनुसूचित जातियां) : जब मामूली सिपाही के लिये भरती होती है, तो चूंकि ज्यादातर रिक्रूटिंग आफ़िसर्ज़ मार्शियल रेसेज़ के होते हैं, इसलिये भी ज्यादातर हरिजनों को फौज में नहीं लिया जाता है । मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि इस बारे में माननीय मंत्री का क्या विचार है ?

डा० काटजू : मुझे मालूम नहीं कि रिक्रूटिंग आफिसर्ज़ कौनसी रेस के हैं—वे सभी रेसिज़ के होते हैं और उनको हिदायत दी जाती है कि रिक्रूटिंग के वक्त वह सिर्फ आदमी को देखें और क़ौमियत या जात बिरादरी को न देखें । अगर आनरेबल मेम्बर इस बारे में मुझे लिखेंगे, तो मैं तवज्जह करूंगा ।

श्री नवल प्रभाकर (बाह्य दिल्ली-रक्षित अनुसूचित जातियां) : मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या आज भी सिख और राजपूत रेजिमेंट के नाम से रेजिमेन्ट्स हैं और अगर हैं, तो क्यों ?

डा० काटजू : मैंने कहा है कि सिख रेजिमेंट भी है और जाट रेजिमेंट भी है और वे पिछले डेढ़ सौ बरसों से हैं । आपके पास सोल्जर साहब बैठे हैं । आप उनसे पोशीदा तौर पर पूछ लीजिये कि उनकी क्या हिस्टरी है और क्या कार हाए-नुमायां हैं ।

Shri S. L. Saksena (Gorakhpur Distt.—North): Let us resume the debate now. I also want to speak.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am calling upon Shri P. L. Kureel to speak now.

Shri Lakshmayya (Aanantpur): I am the president of a Harijan hostel. So, I may be given a chance to express my views on this important report.

Shri P. L. Kureel (Banda Distt. *cum* Fathepur Distt.—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to make a few observations in this House. When I spoke last time, I was accused of bitterness. Some of my hon. friends abused me for having expressed bitter sentiments in House. But whatever I said in the House I said with a good motive, and in good faith. I humbly submit that we say in this House whatever we actually feel as representatives of the Scheduled Castes. After all, we are answerable to the electorate we represent. If it was justifiable for us to fight against British domination, it is also justifiable for us to fight against the slavery that exists in the Hindu society today, and which is a hundred times more odious than the British domination.

Last time, I referred to the Treasury Benches being empty. I do not know why the Minister do not take any interest in the problems of the Scheduled Castes. Why are they so indifferent towards their problems? It appears that they have become physically thick-siknned and morally inexcitable. It is a national problem; they cannot ignore it. If they want to achieve national solidarity in the country, they have got to raise them to the level of other communities. This is not a small problem; this is a gigantic problem. Why do they take it so lightly. In 1954, I submitted a memoradum to the Planning Minister with a copy to the Planning Commission. I sent the memorandum on 21st May, 1954 and I received a reply after 1½ years, and that also a vauge reply. I received the reply on August 8, 1955.

Shri Dhusiya: Thank God he got a reply.

Shri P. L. Kureel: The reply was —"I am directed to say that the various suggestions contained in your

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note are under examination and necessary action will be taken in due course." This is the indifference of the Government, this is the indifference of the Ministers. Why should we not be bitter in this House? After all, we are answerable to the electorate we represent.

I would like to thank the present Home Minister for having appointed a Scheduled Castes man on the Union Public Service Commision. I am also thankful to him for issuing various circular letters to the various Ministries for securing due representation of the Scheduled Castes in the Ministries, and also for the circular letter which he has very recently sent to the various Ministries for the promotion of Scheduled Castes officers.—It is a very important circular.

With this submission, I would like to say something about their representation in the services. In spite of the various attempts that have been made from time to time on the floor of this House and outside, the Scheduled Castes have not been able to secure proper representation in the services. Their representation in classes I, II and III of the Government of India services—I mean Central services—is very inadequate, and their representation in the higher administrative posts like I.A.S. and I.P.S. is notoriously inadequate; I would say, it is almost negligible. During the last four or five years, hundreds of Scheduled Castes have appeared in the competitive examinations. Only last year, 1954-55, 171 Scheduled Castes students appeared in the examination for IAS and 82 students appeared in the examination for IPS, and not one of them was taken in the IAS proper or IPS proper. There were many amongst them who qualified in the written test and also qualified in the *viva voce* test. But I do not know why they were not appointed in the IAS and IPS proper.

In this connection, I would like to point out two very important points. Firstly, the Scheduled Castes have taken to education very late and it will be long before they will be in a position to compete with the major communities. Secondly, on account of social habits and training for centuries, certain communities in India have acquired the genius of passing examinations. Compare the son of a cobbler with the son of a judge. The son of a judge is borne and brought up in a favourable atmosphere, he is well fed, he has a certain amount of leisure that helps in developing his mental and physical faculties. The poor cobbler's son is borne and brought up in ignorance, superstition and economic distress. He is worried about his family because they are married at an early stage. So compare the atmosphere there with the environment here. At every step, the judge's son learns something, his relatives are educated, his friends are educated, he moves in a cultured society where educated and enlightend people are there, whereas the poor cobbler's son has friends who are illiterate and relatives who are ignorant. So you, cannot expect the cobbler's son to compete with the judge's son. This is a natural difference. Besides this, when a man is hungry, when his belly is empty, it is natural for him to react differently from the man who is satisfied and has somthing to fill his belly. So this difference of environment and training has got to be taken into account.

I have got to make one very important suggestion in this respect. I would refer to the Government of India Resolution, 1934, from which I would like to read out a small paragraph:

> "In order to secure fair representation for the depressed classes, duly qualified members of these classes may be nominated to the public service, even though recruitment to that service is being made by competition . Members of these classes if appointed by nomination, will not count against the precentages reserved in accordance with clause 1 above".

So even if reservation is there, the Scheduled Caste people are not in a position to compete with Caste Hindu candidates. I would request the Government to select Scheduled Caste people by nomination. If in the year 1934, the Government of that time, could select Scheduled Caste people by nomination, I think the present Government can certainly select some capable Scheduled Caste candidates by nomination. Let there be an all-India competition which should be open only to Scheduled Caste candidates, and you take some of them. If you take some of them, I think there is no reason why their representation in the higher administrative services should not improve. I know two Scheduled Caste I.C.S. officers who were taken by nomination. I can assure you Sir, as well as this House, that they are doing better than those candidates who have been taken by competition. I know officers in the States, belonging to the provincial civil service. They were taken by nomination. I know quite a number of them; they are very efficient in their duties. I would request the Home Minister and the Deputy Home Minister to see that if Scheduled Caste candidates do not come in by competition, they are selected by nomination. This is one submission.

As regard promotions, they are generally made on two grounds, efficiency and seniority. If a Scheduled Caste happens to be senior, his case is rejected on the made up excuse of his being incompetent; if he is competent, his case is rejected on the plea of his being junior. I know a number of Scheduled Caste officers in class I and in other categories where they have been superseded by junior officers. I know certain officers in the CPWD, I know certain officers in other Ministries who have been superseded. I do not want to name them, because their case might be prejudiced. But I would request Government to see that if there is any suppression of promotion in the case of a Scheduled Caste officer, even if he is rejected by the DPC and the rejection is ratified by the UPSC, the case should be considered by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet. Every such case must go before the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet. It should be decided at a higher level; it should not be left to the Minister or the officers in the Ministry, even if the rejection is ratified by the UPSC because a member of the UPSC happens to be chairman of the DPC; so naturally UPSC cannot go against the wishes of the DPC—I would request the Government to see that every such case of suppression of promotion goes before the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.

The second thing I would like to emphasise is this. Whenever we ask that Scheduled Caste men should be appointed on higher diplomatic posts it is said that candidates with the requisite qualifications are not available, that it requires talent of a very high order. I do admit it is so, and it should be so. But do they think that people with the requisite qualifications are really not available among the Scheduled Castes? When they say that, do they know what they mean? It is an insult to the work of Mahatma Gandhi in this country. It is an insult to the work of all the progressive agencies working for the uplift of the Scheduled Castes? It is a challenge to the work of the ruling party, the party in power; it is a challenge to the uplift work that they themselves have done for the Scheduled Castes.

If they really feel and decide that the Scheduled Caste people should be appointed, I think there is no reason why they should not be available. For instance, Shri Pillai, who has recently been appointed a member of the Union Public Service Commission, could have been appointed in 1945. I do not know what additional qualification he has aquired during this period. Similarly, Shri M. L. Das who has been taken as a member of the Railway Service Commission could have been appointed in 1944 or 1945 when he was a Member of the Council of States here. I do not know

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what additional qualifications these two gentlemen have acquired in the mean time.

It is a question of realising the necessity. It is a question of what you feel for the Scheduled Castes. If you feel for the Scheduled Castes I think you will be able to find many capable Scheduled Caste men in the country.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This Government was not in office in 1945.

Shri P. L. Kureel: One more point which I would like to place before the House is this. Army service plays an important role in the regeneration of a people. It carries with it not only administrative authority but also social prestige. But I am sorry to say that the represenation of the Scheduled Castes in the Army is negligible. I would like to remind you, Sir, and the House the resolution which I moved in the Central Assembly in 1943 that the Scheduled Castes should be recruited to the combatant ranks of the Army. The resolution was accepted by the Government. During the discussion of the First Report of the Commissioner I referred to this resolution. Several Scheduled Caste regiments were raised, the Chamar Regiment, the Mahar Regiment, the Bihar Regiment. I asked the question why they were disbanded after the war and why no effort was made by the national Government to see that these Scheduled Caste people also continued to have representation in the Army. In spite of my having referred to this question during the dicussion of the First Report of the Commissioner, nothing has been said or done by Government.

In this connection, so far as their martial qualities are concerned I would ask you, Sir, to see the great monument at Koregaon; it is a living testimony to that. And as regards the services of the regiments which were raised during the war, the then Commander-in-Chief paid very high tributes to the services rendered by the Chamar Regiments. I shall just read out from the press report issued in 1945:

> "Fighting in the Chamar Regiment, one of the youngest infantry regiments of the Indian Army, scheduled class Chamars have been in action in Burma since September, 1943.
>
> Although mostly engaged in patrol activities and guarding lines of communication, the Chamars have had many brushes with the Japs and have inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy.
>
> First recruited in June 1943, the Chamars formed the 27th Battalion of the second Punjab Regiment."

It is a big note. Suffice it to say that the Scheduled Castes are second to none in their ability to fight. But the trouble is that the officers in the Indian Army suffer from the notions of martial and non-martial classes. The last war has exploded this myth of martial and non-martial classes. It is a fact that the people who belong to the so-called non-martial classes can also prove that they can be useful if they are given an opportunity and appointed in the Army. For instance, some of the ex-criminal tribes belong to some of the bravest people in the country; similarly are the Mahars to which class Dr. Ambedkar belongs. The Mahars Regiment has been made permanent for which I am thankful to the Defence Ministry. But the Chamars Regiment has been disbanded, and I strongly protest against that.

One more point I would like to make, and that is that all the M & R Reigments which mostly consisted of Scheduled Caste people have now been re-named as the Sikh Light Infantry, and the whole credit is taken away by the Sikhs. I would ask that the name of these regiments should be changed.

Even if I admit that these people do not belong to the martial classes it is the duty of the national Government to make them a martial community. The Sikhs were not a material community during the time of

Guru Nanak. The Sikhs became martial during the time of Guru Govind Singh and Guru Tegh Bahadur. The circumstances made them a martial community. Even if for the sake of argument I admit that they do not belong to the martial community, it is the duty of the Government to see that they become a martial community. Every man is a soldier at the time of war. We lost our freedom because we failed to think in terms of countrymen and only one-fourth of the total population was allowed to carry sword. I would request the Government and particulary the Defence Minister to issue special instructions to the authorities. Have a special committee for the appointment of Scheduled Caste people in the Army. Unless this is done I doubt that there will ever be enough representation of the Scheduled Caste people in the Army.

डा० कामले (नान्देड-रक्षित-अनुसूचित जातियां) : शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट कमिश्नर की रिपोर्ट मैंने ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ी उस पर ग़ौर किया और मैं इस नतीजे पर आया कि कमिश्नर की की हुई सिफारिशों पर अगर सरकार ने चौथाई भी अमल किया तो हरिजनों की समस्या हल हो जायगी । परन्तु सरकार निहायत सुस्त है और इस मामले में लापरवाही कर रही है और अगर इसी धीमी और सुस्त चाल से वह क़दम उठाती रही तो दस साल तो क्या सौ साल में हरिजनों का प्रश्न हल न होगा ।

१९३२ में पूना पैक्ट हुआ और २० साल में हरिजनों की समस्या को हल करने का वायदा किया था परन्तु आज तक यह सवाल हल होना बाकी है । महात्मा जी ने पूना पैक्ट के वक्त हिंदू समाज पर बड़ा उपकार किया । उन्होंने हरिजनों पर कोई उपकार नहीं किया बल्कि पूना पैक्ट में एक राजकीय दृष्टिकोण था, जिसकी वजह से हरिजनों को स्वतंत्र मतदान संघ नहीं मिला । अगर पूना पैक्ट न होता और हरिजनों को स्वतंत्र मतदान संघ मिलता तो आज पाकिस्तान की तरह दलितस्थान भी क़ायम हो जाता, परन्तु महात्मा गांधी ने देश पर और हिंदू समाज पर बड़ा उपकार किया है लेकिन दुःख की बात है कि हिंदू समाज पूना पैक्ट भूल गया है ।

जहां तक सरकारी नौकरियों में हरिजनों के लिये सुरक्षित स्थान रखने का प्रश्न है उसके लिये मेरा कहना यह है कि शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट कमिश्नर की रिपोर्ट देखने से साफ ज़ाहिर होता है कि हरिजनों और गिरिजनों के लिये कोटा मुकर्रर होता है, उस पर कोई मुहकमा अमल नहीं करता और वह कोटा सिर्फ कागज़ पर ही लिखा धरा रह जाता है राज्य सरकारों और केन्द्रीय सरकार का इधर ध्यान ही नहीं है । अगर हरिजनों को उनका मुकर्रर कोटा मिला होता तो उनका आर्थिक प्रश्न हल होता, परन्तु दुःख के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि राज्य सरकारों और केन्द्रीय सरकार का कोई भी मुहकमा इस पर अमल नहीं करता और हरिजनों को उनके लिये रक्षित कोटा नहीं मिलता मैं दावे के साथ कहता हूं कि सरकार के किसी भी मुहकमे में रक्षित कोटे पर अमल नहीं होता है । जब रिज़रवेशन है तब यह हाल है, रिज़रवेशन खत्म होने के बाद क्या हाल होगा, यह परमात्मा ही जाने । गवर्नमेंट विचार कर रही है कि हरिजनों को जो सुरक्षित कोटा दिया जा रहा है, वह किस तरह कम किया जाय ।

जनरल एलेक्शन में हैदराबाद असेम्बली में हरिजनों की ३१ सीटें थीं और इस हिसाब से कौंसिल आफ स्टेट में हरिजनों के दो सदस्य थे, परन्तु हाल ही में जो जन गणना हुई है उसमें ३१ की बजाय २९ सीट्स क़ायम की गई और राज्य सभा में हैदराबाद से

[डा० कामत]

एक भी हरिजन प्रतिनिधि नहीं है, उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, यहां पर दीपक के नीचे घोर अंधकार है और जहां अंधेरा ही अंधेरा हो, वहां पर क्या हाल होगा, यह आप समझ सकते हैं।

अस्पृश्यता हिन्दू धर्म पर कलंक है और यह हमारे दुर्भाग्य के सिवाय और क्या हो सकता है कि हमारे देश और समाज में इतने अवतार, संत, महात्मा और समाज सुधारक पैदा होने के बावजूद यह कलंक अभी तक क़ायम है। अस्पृश्यता हिन्दू समाज की आध्यात्मिक प्रवृत्ति है और यह उसको माता के दूध के साथ विरासत में मिली है। और जब तक हिन्दुओं के प्राचीन धर्म ग्रन्थों की रचनाओं को बदला न जाय, अस्पृश्यता का नष्ट होना असम्भव है। रामायण में भगवान राम ने शंबूक को सिर्फ इसलिये मारा क्योंकि वह अछूत था। मनुस्मृति में मनु ने स्पष्ट कहा है कि ब्राह्मण श्रेष्ठ और शूद्र कनिष्ठ, इसलिये शूद्र को वेद के अध्ययन का अधिकार नहीं है। जगद्गुरु शंकराचार्य ने अद्वैत मत का प्रचार किया परन्तु वह सिर्फ काग़ज की हद तक ही रहा, व्यवहार में द्वैत भाव क़ायम रखा, अर्थात् मैं ब्राह्मण हूं और तू शूद्र है, यह व्यवहार रहा है और अभी भी है। रामायण के रचियता गोस्वामी तुलसीदास ने भी कहा है कि ढोल, गंवार, शूद्र, पशु, नारी, यह सब ताड़न के अधिकारी। जब इन बड़े बड़े महापुरुषों और संतों का यह हाल है तो सामान्य हिन्दू जन से आप क्या उम्मीद रख सकते हैं। हिन्दू तो लकीर का फकीर है। मैं हिन्दू धर्म मार्तंडों से पूछना चाहता हूं कि उनके पास इसका क्या उत्तर है कि जिस तरह ईसाई लोग एक चर्च में जाकर प्रार्थना करते हैं, मुसलमान लोग एक मस्जिद में जाकर नमाज पढ़ते हैं और इबादत करते हैं, उसी तरह क्या हिन्दू जाति के सारे लोग मिलकर एक साथ मंदिर में भगवान की प्रार्थना करते हैं? एक सनातनी ब्राह्मण एक अछूत हिन्दू को देखकर उसी तरह झिझकता है जिस तरह एक पागल कुत्ता पानी को देखकर झिझकता है, ऐसी सूरत में एक साथ पूजा व प्रार्थना करना तो एक नामुमकिन सी बात हो जाती है। इसके विपरीत हरिजन लोगों को परधर्मियों से आदर और सम्मान मिलता है परन्तु स्वधर्मी हिन्दू से घृणा और अपमान ही उसको मिलता है और सवर्ण हिन्दुओं के इस तरह के व्यवहार के कारण हमारे बहुत से हरिजन भाई धर्म छोड़कर ईसाई हो रहे हैं। असल बात यह है।

परन्तु विघ्न संतोषी धर्म के ठेकेदार यह पसन्द नहीं करते। उनकी मनोवृत्ति है कि हरिजन जिस हालत में पहले थे उसी हालत में रहें। और वह हिन्दू समाज का आर्थिक सामाजिक तथा धार्मिक गुलाम बना रहे। और हमेशा हिन्दू के द्वार पर याचक जैसा पड़ा रहे। हरिजन समाज की उन्नति हिन्दू व्यक्ति फूटी आंख से देखना भी पसन्द नहीं करते। यह है हरिजनों के प्रति हिन्दू समाज की मनोवृत्ति जो हिन्दू व्यक्ति को अपने माता के दूध के साथ मिली है। इसका सरकार के पास क्या इलाज है और शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स कमिश्नर ने इसको दूर करने के लिये क्या सुझाव दिया है? रोजाना अखबारों में खबरें आती हैं कि यहां पर हरिजनों पर यह अत्याचार हुआ, उस गांव में हरिजन को होटल से निकाल दिया, इस जगह मंदिर में नहीं जाने दिया। परन्तु अफसोस है कि शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स कमिश्नर ने इस जुल्म वह अत्याचार का कहीं भी जिक्र नहीं किया है। जहां पर विनोबा भावे जैसे संत को जूते मिलते हैं वहां पर गरीब व बेजबान हरिजनों का क्या हाल होगा, यह बयान से बाहर की बात है।

1 P.M.

अमरीका में भारतीय हाईकमिश्नर को अमेरिकन हवाई अड्डे के होटल से निकाल देने से दुनियां के अखबारों में खबरें छापी गईं और उनसे माफी मांगी गई, परन्तु भारतवर्ष के ग्राम के होटलों में रोजमर्रा कितने हरिजनों को अपमानित करके बाहर निकाल दिया जाता है और बेइज्जती की जाती है, इस पर सरकार ने कभी विचार ही नहीं किया। अफ्रीका में अंग्रेज भारतीयों के साथ अस्पृश्य जैसा व्यवहार करते हैं, उन पर तो हर भारतीय को गुस्सा आता है, परन्तु हमारे भारत में अपने घर में हरिजनों के प्रति कैसा बर्ताव होता है इस पर भारतवासी कभी गौर ही नहीं करते।

हरिजनों का मसला एक राष्ट्रीय मसला है सरकार ने जिस तरह रिफ्यूजियों का मसला राष्ट्रीय मसला समझकर हल किया उसी तरह इस मसले को भी हल करना चाहिये। इसके लिये एक स्वतंत्र मंत्रालय कायम करना चाहिये। मैं जब पार्लियामेंट का मेम्बर चुना गया, उसी वक्त राष्ट्रपति, पंडित जवाहरलाल नेहरू, पंत प्रधान, अध्यक्ष आल इंडिया कांग्रेस कमेटी, और प्लानिंग मिनिस्टर श्री गुलजारीलाल नन्दा की सेवा में हरिजन उन्नति के लिये एक योजना तैयार करके रवाना की थी कि हरिजनों का मसला हल करने के लिये एक पंचवर्षीय योजना बनाई जाय और कम से कम सौ १०० करोड़ रुपये मंजूर करके एक स्वतंत्र मंत्रालय कायम किया जाय। परन्तु उसकी ओर कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया गया। रिजर्वेशन की मुद्दत सिर्फ ६ साल बाकी है और हरिजन कार्य अभी ४ आने भी नहीं हुआ है।

साबिक गृह मंत्री काटजू साहब ने अलग मंत्रालय का घोर विरोध किया था और एक सभा में उत्तर दिया था कि मैं खुद हरिजन हूं और हरिजन मंत्री के नाते इतना ही हरिजनों का कल्याण कर सकता हूं। बल्कि उससे ज्याद कर सकता हूं।

मैं खुद अपने आप को हरिजन समझता हुं पूज्य काटजू साहब के प्रति हमारे दिल में आदर हो वह हरिजन मंत्री से ज्यादा हरिजनों का कल्याण कर सकते हैं। इस बारे में सन्देह नहीं परन्तु में उन को नम्रता से जवाब देना चाहता हूं। महाराष्ट्र के प्रसिद्ध संत तुकाराम महाराज कहते हैं :

"पाण्येतलामासा निद्राघेतो कैसा
जाणे त्याचा वंसा तेज्हां कडे"

पानी में जो मछली रहती है वह किस तरह नींद लेती है अगर यह मालूम करना हो तो मछली के पेट में जन्म लो तभी मालूम होगा पूज्य महात्मा गांधी ने कहा था कि मुझे स्वर्ग नहीं होना चाहिये मुझे मोक्ष नहीं होना चाहिये मुझ एक भंगी के घर जन्म मिलना चाहिये ताकि मैं हरिजनों की परिस्थिति पूर्ण रूप से मालूम कर सकूं और उन की योग्य सेवा कर सकूं जब तुकाराम महाराज और महात्मा गांधी हरिजनों की परिस्थिति का एहसास नहीं कर सकते तो हमारे साबिक गृह मंत्री काटजू साहब कैसे हरिजन बन सकते हैं, यह आश्चर्य है। वन्ध्या क्या जाने प्रसूति वेदना ? हरिजनों का दर्द सिर्फ हरिजन ही जानते हैं। जिस तरह डा० अम्बेडकर और जगजीवनराम महसूस कर सकते हैं उस तरह काटजू साहब नहीं महसूस कर सकते इसीलिये इस मसले को हल करने के लिये एक हरिजन मंत्री नियुक्त करना चाहिये। मैं अपना अनुभव आपको बताता हूं। मैं खुद टैरिटोरियल आर्मी में चुनाव के लिये गया था। मेरठ में सेलेक्शन का काम होने वाला था। मैं मेडीकल टैस्ट, फिजिकल टैस्ट वगैरह सब में फिट (योग्य) आया था, मेरे साथ २४ और लड़के भी थे। मेरा बैच नं० १८२० और चैस्ट नं० १३ था। उन २४ में से सिर्फ मैं हरिजन था और बाकी २३ हरिजन थे। उनमें से ३ एन० सी० सी० का सर्टीफिकेट पाये हुये भी थे। उनमें से ७ आदमियों को आखिरी चुनाव के लिये छांटा गया, लेकिन बाद में सेलेक्शन बोर्ड ने जिसके

[डा कामले]

चेयरमैन कर्नल दुबे थे, एक भी आदमी नहीं लिया । मैंने इसके लिये बड़ी दौड़धूप की, पंडित जवाहरलाल नेहरू और श्री त्यागी तक भी पहुंचा, लेकिन इसमें कुछ नहीं हो सका ।

महाशय, इसलिये मैं बहुत नम्रतापूर्वक आपसे कहना हूं कि इस काम के लिये एक अलग मंत्रालय खोलना चाहिये । अगर ६० लाख निर्वासितों का मसला हल करने के लिये अलग मंत्रालय कायम किया जा सकता है तो ६ करोड़ हरिजनों का मसला हल करने के लिये जो हजारों साल से निर्वासित और दलित हैं, क्यों न अलग मंत्रालय बनाया जाय ? इस सदन में जितने गिरिजन और हरिजन सदस्य हैं सब इसके अनुकूल हैं और ये सब हरिजन और गिरिजन सदस्यों की मांग है । जनाबआली जब गुलाम को उसकी गुलामी का एहसास नहीं होगा तब तक ही वह अपने मालिक का गुलाम रहे गा, जिस वक्त उसको अपनी गुलामी का ज्ञान होगा उसी वक्त वह बगावत करेगा और गुलामी के बन्धन को तोड़ देगा । इसलिये जब तक यहां हरिजन प्रतिनिधि शान्त बैठे हुये हैं तब तक ही सरकार दया और उपकार की भावना को छोड़कर इस काम को एक राष्ट्रीय कार्य समझकर और हरिजनों का सामाजिक अधिकार मानकर उनके लिये कम से कम १०० करोड़ रुपये की एक पंच वर्षीय योजना बनाये और एक स्वतंत्र मंत्रालय खास इस काम के लिये कायम किया जाय । इसी में हरिजनों का और देश का कल्याण होगा, वर्ना बाद में बिगड़ी हुई हालत को बनाने में देश का बड़ा नुक्सान होगा । महाशय, जब रजाकार गवर्नमेंट जो सबसे बुरी गवर्नमेंट कही जाती थी उसने हरिजनों की उन्नति के लिये हैदराबाद में १ करोड़ रुपया दिया था, तो हमारी भारत सरकार के लिये १०० करोड़ रूपया खर्च कर देना कोई बहुत बड़ी बात नहीं है और उसको इसमें आपत्ति नहीं होनी चाहिये ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं जानता हूं कि सरकार हरिजन उन्नति के लिये पानी की तरह रुपया उदारता से खर्च कर रही है, हरिजनों के हितों की रक्षा करने वाली कई संस्थायें जिनको सरकार मुक्त हाथ से मदद दे रही है; परन्तु मुझे अफसोस के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि सरकार के औदार्य की यह गंगा ग़रीब हरिजन की झोंपड़ी तक पहुंचने के पहले ही सूख जाती है । ऊपर से हरिजनों के हितों की रक्षा करने वाली संस्थायें वास्तव में कफनचोरों की जमातें हैं । यह संस्थायें पहला और आखिरी मौका समझकर उससे खुद फायदा उठा रही हैं । सरकार को सावधान हो कर ऐसी संस्थाओं को कोई रक़म न देना चाहिये, और यदि दिया भी हो तो उसकी पूरी जांच पड़ताल करनी चाहिए । और इन के तवस्सत से मदद देने की बजाय यगय हरिजनों की सीधी मदद करनी चाहिये ।

हिन्दू समाज की तरह से हरिजनों में भी अलग अलग जातियां हैं और अज्ञान की वजह से उनमें काफी मतभेद है । इनके आपसी झगड़ों की वजह से सयासी जमातें और उनके लीडर बन्दर के इन्साफ की तरह फायदा उठा रहे हैं । जिस तरह बन्दर के इन्साफ में दो बिल्लियां आपस में मक्खन के डले के लिये लड़ती हैं गौर उसकी तकसीम के लिये बन्दर के हवाले करती हैं, और वह बन्दर जिधर वजन ज्यादा होता है उस बाजू का मक्खन खाता है और आखिरकार सारा हड़प कर लेता है, और दोनों बिल्लियां बैठी मुंह ताकती रह जाती हैं । यही हाल हैदराबाद में हुआ है । मराठाबाड़े के एक भी जिले को अनटचैबिलिटी रिमूवल के लिये सरकार से कोई रक़म नहीं मिली, न अस्पृश्यता निवारण पैम्फलेट या पत्रक मिले और न प्रचार से मेरी नम्र विनती है कि इसकी निगरानी रक्खी जाय और जो भी रकम सरकार से मंजूर हो वह किसी संस्था या व्यक्ति को न

देकर, एक सलाहकार समिति कायम की जाय और उस कमटी की सलाह से रकम दी जाय, तभी हरिजन समाज को फायदा पहुंचेगा ।

सरकार ने जो अनटचैबिलिटी आफेन्स बिल पास किया है, उसकी इतला अभी तक कलेक्टर और डी० एस० पी० जैसे जिम्मेदार अफसरों को नहीं है। हैदराबाद के मराठावाड़ा इलाके में अधिक अस्पृश्यता कायम है । श्रीमान दातार साहब को जब वह परभनी के दौरे पर आये थे तो यह परिस्थिति बताई गई थी। वहां के होटलों में अभी तक चाय के कप हरिजनों के लिये बाहर रक्खे हुये हैं । हज्जाम हजामत नहीं बनाता, धोबी कपड़े नहीं धोता, बावलियों पर हरिजन पानी नहीं ले सकते । यह हाल है । इसलिये इस बिल पर अमल करनें का हुक्म तमाम माल और पुलिस अफसरों को देना चाहिये और उसकी माहवारी रिपोर्ट देखनी चाहिय साथ ही देश में काफी प्रचार और प्रोपेगेन्डा करना चाहिये । जो सरकारी बावलियां हैं वह सब के लिये खुली करनी चाहिये । होटल हेयर कटिंग सेलून व लांड्री वाले अगर छूत छात मानते हैं तो उनको लाइसेंस ही न देना चाहिये । इससे काफी असर पड़ेगा ।

आखिर में मैं पंडित पंत से जो हमारें गृह मंत्री हैं और अब्राहम लिंकन और प्रिंस बिस्मार्क जैसे कुशल राजनीतिज्ञ हैं, नम्र विनती करूंगा कि हिन्दुस्तान के हरिजनों की गुलामी नष्ट कर के उन को समता का और सामाजिक दर्जा दिलाने के लिये, मुकर्रर मुद्दत में अस्पृश्यता नष्ट करने के लिये व स्वतन्त्र भारत के नागरिक होने के नाते इज्जत और मान का दर्जा दिलाने के लिये उचित कदम उठायें ।

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Gurgaon) *rose*—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am sorry I am not able to afford time.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: One hour was given both to the Deputy Minister and the hon. Minister for Defence. The Defence Minister himself has taken more than 30 minutes. It is from the non-official Members' time that he has taken up. It was said that the Deputy Minister would take 45 minutes and Dr. Katju would take up 15 minutes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Fifteen minutes were devoted to his speech and 15 minutes were taken up in answering questions.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: In that way he has taken more than half an hour, about 45 minutes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No; he has taken only half an hour. He began at 12-07 and completed by 12-37, just half an hour. Fifteen or twenty minutes were taken up by questions.

Shri Bogawat (Ahmednagar South): When we made a request to the Speaker he said.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The same Speaker has asked me to call upon the Deputy Minister at one o'clock. I find so many hon. Members standing.

Shri Bogawat: The Deputy Minister will have no objection to giving a few minutes to others.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is Swami Ramanand Shastri; he comes from the community.

Shri Balmiki: I also want to express my views, Sir.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: There were a number of speakers from the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. For two days every Member of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was given an opportunity. Almost 90 per cent of them were given an opportunity to speak. We wanted at least one or two hours. Therefore, we thought that this time will be given to those other persons who

[Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava]

had something to say. We also want to express our views and give suggestions for future work. We are also as concerned in this matter as the Members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Shri Bogawat: There was a proposal to extend the time.

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): I may suggest that one Scheduled Caste Member and one non-Scheduled Caste Memebr may be allowed to speak.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: One more? Yes, then Shri Ramanand Shastri.

स्वामी रामानन्द शास्त्री (जिला उन्नाव व जिला रायबरेली—पश्चिम व जिला हरदोई—दक्षिण—पूर्व—रक्षित—अनुसूचित जातियां): इस रिपोर्ट पर काफी बहस हो चुकी है और बहुत से सदस्यों ने उसमें भाग भी लिया है और करीब करीब सभी पहलुओं पर अपने विचार भी प्रकट किए हैं मैं समझता हूं कि अब कोई विशेष बात कहने को नहीं रह गई है लेकिन फिर भी दो चार बातें हैं जिन की ओर मैं आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं भारत जो जनता रूपी एक सरीर है और उसमें जो पिछडे वर्ग हैं जब तक उनका उत्थान नहीं किया जाता, हमारा राष्ट्र उन्नति नहीं कर सकता है मैं समझता हूं कि केवल अस्पृश्यता मिटाने से ही ये लोग उन्नति नहीं कर सकते और उनकी समस्यायें हल नहीं हो सकतीं । मैं मानता हूं कि अस्पृश्यता को मिटाना एक बहुत जरूरी चीज है लेकिन इसके साथ साथ और भी बहुत से काम हैं जो हम ने करने हैं । उनकी जो आर्थिक अवस्था है वह बहुत ही सोचनीय है और आप जब तक उनकी आर्थिक अवस्था अच्छी नहीं बनाते तब तक आप छूआछूत को भी नहीं मिटा सकते । आप दूसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना बना रहे हैं । इस सम्बन्ध में मैं सरकार का ध्यान इस ओर खींचना चाहता हूं कि उनमें बेकारी बहुत बढ़ रही है और उनकी आर्थिक दशा को भी सुधारने की आवश्यकता है । मेरा सुझाव है कि उनमें से बेकारी को दूर करने के लिये और उनमें छोटे छोटे उद्योग धंधे चलाने के लिये सरकार एक अरब रुपये की व्यवस्था इस योजना में करे ।

एक माननीय सदस्य : दो अरब रुपया ।

स्वामी रामानन्द शास्त्री : यदि आप इतना रुपया नहीं रखते हैं तो मैं समझता हूं आप उनकी सहायता जिस हद तक करनी चाहिये आप नहीं कर सकेंगे और उनकी दशा नहीं सुधरेगी । जो भाषण इस सदन में हुये हैं और जो बातें माननीय सदस्यों ने कही हैं मुझे मालूम है उनका उत्तर आप देंगे, लेकिन केवल उत्तर देने से और आश्वासन देने से काम नहीं चलेगा । जब तक हम सक्रिय रूप से उनकी आर्थिक दशा सुधारने का प्रयत्न नहीं करते ऊंचे नहीं उठ सकते जो उनकी समस्यायें हैं वे हल नहीं हो सकतीं ।

जो उनकी छोटी छोटी समस्यायें हैं लेकिन जिनको मैं बहुत गम्भीर समझता हूं, उनकी तरफ मैं आपका ध्यान खींचना चाहता हूं । गांव के अन्दर एक एक घर में १०-१० और १२-१२ आदमी रहते हैं । १०-१५ फुट के मकान में यदि १०-१२ आदमी रहें तो आप अंदाजा लगा सकते हैं कि जिस घर में उसका लड़का भी रहता है, उसकी बहू भी रहती है, उसके दूसरे बाल-बच्चे भी रहते हैं उनकी कैसी बुरी हालत होती होगी । इस तरह से एक तो समस्या उनके लिये रहने के लिये मकानों की है । इसके बारे में मेरा सुझाव है कि जो जमीनें इन जमींदारों के पास और जिन पर इन्होंने किसी तरीके से भी अधिकार किया हुआ है वह जमीनें इन लोगों को दे दी जाए और अगर वह जमीन कम है तो इनको और जमीन दी जाये ताकि ये लोग छोटा

मोटा मकान बनाकर रह सकें । मकान बनाने के लिये भी मेरा सुझाव है, कि इनको आर्थिक सहायता दी जाये ।

दूसरी चीज जो मैं कहना चाहता हूं वह इनमें जो बेकारी फैली हुई है उसके बारे में है । इसके लिये मेरा सुझाव है कि जोतने के लिये इन लोगों को कुछ जमीन दिलाई जाये और साथ ही साथ इनको आर्थिक सहायता दी जाये ऐसा करने से एक तो उनमें से बेकारी दूर हो सकेगी और दूसरे कुछ अस्पृश्यता भी मिट सकेगी । मेरा खयाल है आपके पास अभी बहुत सी जमीन पड़ी हुई है और अगर उसमें से इन लोगों को जोतने के लिये और मकान बनने के लिये जमीन दे दी जाये तो एक तो लोग जमींदारों के पंजों से निकल सकेंगे और दूसरे इनकी आर्थिक हालत भी अच्छी हो सकेगी जिससे अस्पृश्यता भी कुछ हद तक दूर हो जायेगी ।

पिछले दिनों मैं राजस्थान गया था और आज ही वहां से आया हूं और वहां के लोगों से मुझे मालूम हुआ कि राजस्थान में तो हरिजनों की बहुत ही बुरी हालत है । वहां की जो मिनिस्टरी है उसकी भी कुछ ऐसी ही हालत है । वह मिनिस्टरी ऊपर से कुछ और है और भीतर से कुछ और ही है । भाई बारूपाल ने अपने भाषण मे कई बातें बताई हैं । परसों पंत जी भी वहीं पर थे । मुझे वहां के जो लोग हैं उनसे मालूम हुआ है कि राजस्थान में यह हालत है कि कलेक्टरों के उस कानून के बारे में जो कि पार्लियामेंट ने पास किया है कि अस्पृश्यता एक अपराध है, सरकार की तरफ से कोई सर्कयूलर ही नहीं अभी तक भेजा गया है । इसका नतीजा यह हुआ है कि वहां पर कोई केस ही रजिस्टर नहीं किये जा रहे हैं और जो लोग जाते हैं उनको निराश वापस आना पड़ता है ।

नौकरियों में जो हरिजनों की हालत होती है वह आपको मालूम ही है । १९५४ में मैंने एक रामजी दास जो ईस्टर्न कोर्ट में काम करता है और जिसने सुराही को छू लिया था उसकी बात बतलाई थी । उसको खूब मारा और पीटा गया था । एक डी० डी० गुप्ता असिस्टेंट इंजिनियर है उसको दरख्वास्त भी दी गई थी और उन्होंने उसको फाड़ दिया । आनरेबल संचार मंत्री का ध्यान भी आकर्षित किया गया था लेकिन कुछ भी नहीं हुआ । मैं तो कहता हूं कि यह अफसर इतने कमीन हैं कि ये रिपोर्ट का जवाब तक नहीं देते ।

श्री बाल्मीकि : कर्महीन कहिये ।

स्वामी रामानन्द शास्त्री : दोनों का एक ही मतलब है । साथ ही साथ मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि दफतरों में इन लोगों की पानी पीने या पिलाने के लिए लोटा छूने नहीं दिया जाता है । मेरे कहने के कारण अगर किसी को दुख हुआ हो तो मेरी उससे प्रार्थना है कि वह उस ग़लती को सुधार करके आवे से ठीक तरह से काम करे और जो वह कहता है वही करे ।

मेरी प्रार्थना यह है कि जब तक आप उनकी आर्थिक दशा सुधारते नहीं है तब तक यह समस्यायें हल हो नहीं सकती हैं । मैंने दूसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना में एक अरब रुपया अलग रखने की मांग की है और मैं चाहता हूं कि वह कम से कम धन राशि है जो कि जरूर ही रखी जाये । इस रुपये से उनमें छोटे छोटे जो घरेलू धंधे हैं उनको चलाने में मदद मिलनी चाहिये । साथ ही साथ उनकी सामूहिक रूप में कोआपरेटिव सोसाइटीज बना दी जायें जिनमें आधा रुपया सरकार का हो और बाकी का आधा रुपया सोसाइटी को इकट्ठा करना चाहिये । ऐसा करने से उनकी जो आर्थिक दशा है उसमें सुधार लाया जा सकता है ।

छुआछूत के सम्बन्ध में मैं यह चाहता हूं कि हमारी सरकार छुआछूत दूर करने के लिये काफी रुपया दे रही है लेकिन मैं

[स्वामी रामानन्द शास्त्री]

समझता हूं कि यह रुपया आटे में नमक के बराबर है। साथ ही साथ मैं समझता हूं कि केवल रुपया दे देने से ही काम नहीं बनेगा। मेरा खयाल है कि हमारे जितने भी गांव हैं और जितनी भी पंचायतें हैं या शहर हैं उन सब में जो कानून हमने अस्पृश्यता के बारे में पास किया है उसको हर एक प्रांतीय भाषा और हिंदी में छपवाकर बांटा जाय और यह भी कहा जाये कि जिस अफसर के हलके में किसी किस्म का भी किस्सा होगा उस अफसर को बरखास्त कर दिया जायेगा। जब तक आप इस तरह के सख्त क़दम नहीं उठायेंगे तब तक अस्पृश्यता दूर नहीं हो सकती।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं और समय न लेता हुआ कमिश्नर साहब को उनकी रिपोर्ट के लिये धन्यवाद देता हूं और उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपका भी मैं आभारी हूं कि आपने मुझे बोलने का समय दिया। मैं आशा करता हूं कि जो कुछ भी बातें मैंने कही हैं उन पर ध्यान दिया जायेगा और उन पर अमल करने का प्रयत्न किया जायेगा।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Bogawat.

Shri Kamath: May I request that my friend who is standing here be allowed to speak, particularly as he belongs to the Scheduled Tribes?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Bogawat.

Shri Bogawat: This is a very important question and I must congratulate the Commissioner of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, who is doing very good work. Throughout his whole life he has spent his time in doing work for the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes. One of the Members was not right—I must say we are very ungrateful—in criticising or condemning such a person who is equally a patriot and as earnest as any Member of this House.

According to our Constitution, we have not done as much as we ought to have done for these classes. Under the Constitution—and it was the ardent desire of the Father of our nation—much should be done in the interests of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. He worked for them throughout his life. Though there is article 46, have we taken special care to promote the educational and economic interests of these weaker classes? The finding would be "no". It is only recently that the hon. Home Minister was kind enough to make a declaration that there would be free education throughout the universities, colleges, high schools, etc., but this ought to have been done long ago because this is a national problem. The greatness of our country depends on the improvement and the welfare of these people. Only Rs. 4 crores were assigned out of Rs. 2,200 crores in the Five Year Plan for the upliftment of these backward class people. It was very insufficient and I am amazed to see that out of Rs. 4 crores, only Rs. 1·65 crores has been spent and the remaining amount is yet to be spent. With such a very insignificant amount, can we expect the welfare of such a very big class of people, who number about seven crores out of the thirty-six crores? Impossible. May I request the Home Ministry to take special care and try at least for Rs. 10 crores in the Second Five Year Plan for the welfare of these people so that they can come up to the level of the other classes and get as much education as possible. The welfare of the people can be improved only if their economic conditions are improved.

I have to say a few words about the conditions of their houses. Out of about seven crores of people, about one crore live in dungeons, such bad houses and slums where even cattle would not be kept. I suggest that if really the conditions of these people are to be improved at least Rs. 100 crores should be reserved out of the amount set apart for housing for these one crore of people. For a house cos-

ting Rs. 1,000, at least Rs. 500 should be lent so that all these people can have at least good houses. Secondly, I suggest that the Home Ministry should insist on the municipalities gram panchayats and other local authorities to give sites to these people not outside the village or town but inside so that they may associate with other people. Untouchability will then go by itself.

What is the use of passing these laws and making a declaration without achieving these things? We must achieve things. What have we achieved? Not so much as we ought to have. There is still exploitation in the villages. The village headman and the officers still exploit them. Untouchability has not been removed in the least. These poor people still suffer and the Ministry should take special care.

I am sorry that several States have not given their reports and the Commissioner was bold enough to express his free opinion as regards those States. Why should these people neglect their duties when the Father of the Nation had given so many directions as regards the raising of the status of these people. There economic conditions are very pitiable. Still we have not put any ceiling on land. How can we give lands to these people?—Their livelihood and maintenance is on the lands—by working on the lands. They do not get their maintenance. Unless you give lands to these people, their economic condition would not improve. Much care should be taken so far as this problem is concerned.

As regards the services, so many hon. Members from these classes have expressed their opinion. Why should not these people be given some concession? Even if they have not got a particular number of marks, give some concessions at least for five years and appoint some as officers so that they can bring about improvement.

I know in the last war and the one before that the Mahar and Chamar regiments proved themselves very good compared to the Germans, Italians and other martial races. There is a record to that effect. If they are brave people, competent people, powerful people (*An Hon. Member*: Patriotic people), then why were they disbanded? That regiment ought not to have been disbanded but kept in service. That has not been done.

If we look at the reports of all the Ministries, I find that only the Railway and the Communications Ministries have a good number of those people employed. But that is all in the third and fourth grades—not in the higher grades. As regard other Ministries, no special care is taken.

We should also protect these people from social injustice and exploitation. About social injustice, I must say that still in the villages, there is injustice done to these Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Every attempt must be made through our officers and public workers and there must be a drive and a big propaganda so that there will not be any social injustice.

Shri Kamath: There is one Scheduled Tribes Member standing. He may be given two minutes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Has no Scheduled Tribes representative spoken?

Shri Kamath: Not today.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All right. Two miniutes for Shri Randhaman Singh.

श्री रणछमन सिंह (शाहडोल-सीधी--रक्षित--अनुसूचित आदिम जातियां) : शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट और शिड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्ज के विषय में जो रिपोर्ट इस सदन में प्रस्तुत की गई है, उसके लिये मैं कमिश्नर साहब को धन्यवाद देता हूं । गृह मंत्री महोदय ने आदिवासियों और हरिजनों के लिये जो सहानुभूति दिखाई है, उसके लिये मैं उनको भी हार्दिक धन्यवाद देता हूं । किन्तु साथ ही मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि आदिवासियों और हरिजनों के हितों की रक्षा

[श्री रनदभन सिंह]

और उनकी उन्नति के विषय में जो विचार यहां पर प्रकट किये गये हैं, उनको बहुत जल्दी कार्यान्वित करने और एक योजना बनाकर उसके अनुसार चलने की बहुत आवश्यकता है । रामायण की एक चौपाई में कहा गया है :

का वर्षा जब कृषि सुखाने,
समय चूकी पुनि का पछताने ।

अगर कोई कार्य उचित समय पर किया जाये, तब ही वह लाभप्रद हो सकता है । किन्तु समय बीतने पर उसका कोई फायदा नहीं हो सकता है । आज कल जिस प्रकार काम हो रहा है, उससे मुझे एक घटना का स्मरण हो आया है । एक मर्तबा हमारे यहां जंगल में मई के महीने में आग लग गई और इस विषय में जंगल डिविजन को रिपोर्ट की गई तो अक्तूबर के महीने में आदेश दिया गया कि आग को बुझाने का जल्दी से जल्दी प्रबन्ध किया जाये । इस तरह से काम नहीं होना चाहिये । काग़जों और फ़ाइलों पर तो आदिवासियों के लिये बहुत कुछ काम किया जा चुका है और किया जा रहा है, लेकिन अगर आदिवासियों के क्षेत्रों में जाकर उनकी आर्थिक और सामाजिक परिस्थितियों को देखा जाय, तो पता चलता है कि उनकी क्या हालत है । जब तक आदिवासियों और हरिजनों में फैली हुई बेकारी और बेरोज़गारी को कम करने का प्रयत्न न किया जायेगा, तब तक वे शिक्षा और अन्य क्षेत्रों में आगे नहीं बढ़ सकते हैं ।

आदिवासियों की आर्थिक अवस्था के बारे में मैं पहले भी इस सदन में बहुत कुछ कह चुका हूं, लेकिन उनकी आर्थिक दशा की सुधारने की ओर कोई विशेष ध्यान नहीं दिया जा रहा है । वे लोग ऋण में फंसे हुये हैं और दिन रात परिश्रम करने और हल जोतने के बावजूद भी ऋण से मुक्त नहीं हो रहे हैं । क्या इस विषय में कुछ सोचा जा रहा है ? आज जब कि ७५ परसेंट आदिवासी बेकार और बेरोज़गार हैं और ऋण की जंजीरों में फंसे हुये हैं, तब उन्नति का क्या रास्ता हो सकता है और उनके बाल-बच्चों का क्या कल्याण हो सकता है ?

अभी हाल की बात है कि कुछ जमींदारों और पूंजीपतियों ने रात के समय एक जगह के हरिजनों और आदिवासियों को उनके घर में जाकर जगाया और डरा-धमका कर कहा कि चलो, हमारे यहां हल जोतो, नहीं तो तुमको जान से मार डालेंगे । इस तरह उनको डरा धमका कर उनसे हल जुतवाया गया और उनसे काम लिया गया । एक ब्योहर एक आदिवासी को धोखा देकर घर में ले गया और खम्भे में बांधकर खूब पिटाई किया था, थाने में भी सुनवाई नहीं हुई । हरिजनों और आदिवासियों के बच्चों को स्कूलों में धमकाया जाता है और कहा जाता है कि अगर हरिजन और आदिवासी ही स्कूलों में पढ़ने लग जायेंगे तो बाकी लोग कहाँ जायेंगे । इस बारे में डिस्ट्रिक्ट इन्सपेक्टर आफ स्कूल्ज़ का ध्यान आकर्षित करने की जरूरत है । गो कि सरकार यहां से उन लोगों को स्कालरशिप और वज़ीफा देने के लिये बहुत रुपया भेजती है, लेकिन पता नहीं, उस रुपये का कैसे उपयोग किया जाता है और कहां पर खर्च किया जाता है ? मैंने समाज कल्याण विभाग के वैलफेयर आफीसरके आफिस में दो चार स्कूलों का रिकार्ड देखा, जिससे पता चला कि बहुत से बच्चों के लिये साल भर का वज़ीफा मंजूर कर लिया गया और खर्च कर दिया गया था, लेकिन मुझे ज्ञात हुआ कि किसी बच्चे को दो तीन महीने का वज़ीफ़ा देकर फिर बन्द कर दिया गया ।

सरदार ए० एस० सहगल (बिलासपुर): उस स्कूल का नाम तो बतला दीजिये ।

श्री रनदमन सिंह : वह सीधी स्कूल है और मडवास स्कूल है । यह तो मेरे सामने की बात है । कोई सुनी हुई बात नहीं है ।

बहुत से हरिजन और आदिवासी बच्चों को वजीफा नहीं मिलता, उनके पास खर्चा नहीं होता यद्यपि वे पढ़ने के इच्छुक होते हैं पर अपनी आर्थिक हालत के कारण उनको मजबूर होकर दूसरे काम में लग जाना पड़ता है और वे अपनी पढ़ाई जारी नहीं रख पाते उनमें से अक्सर को मजदूरी करनी पड़ती है इस विषय में मैं मंत्री महोदय और पिछड़े वर्ग के कमिश्नर महोदय का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं । मैं चाहता हूं कि वे इस विषय पर ग़ौर करें और इस समस्या को हल करने के लिये ठोस क़दम उठावें ।

कहा जाता है कि बहुत से उद्योग धंधे खोले जा रहे हैं जिनसे बेकारी दूर होगी और लोगों को काम मिलेगा जिससे कि उनकी आर्थिक समस्या हल होगी । लेकिन आज तक हमारे प्रदेश में कोई ऐसा उद्योग नहीं खोला गया है जिससे कि हरिजनों और आदिवासियों की आर्थिक समस्या हल हो सके ।

नौकरियों के सम्बन्ध में भी यही हालत है । मैं आपके सामने सन् ५४ की रिपोर्ट से कुछ आंकड़े पेश करता हूं । पहली और दूसरी श्रेणी के तो इन लोगों को योग्य ही नहीं समझा गया । तीसरी श्रेणी में अनुसूचित जातियों के ५२ और आदिवासियों के तीन आदमी लिये गये हैं । चौथी श्रेणी में हरिजन ७६६ और आदिवासी ८५ लिये गये हैं । जहां आदिवासियों की आबादी क़रीब ५ लाख है वहां सरकारी विभागों में ८५ लिये गये हैं । इस तरह से हिसाब लगाइये तो मालूम होगा कि उनकी जितनी संख्या ली जानी चाहिये उसका सौवां हिस्सा भी नहीं लिया जाता । इस बारे में ऐसा प्रबन्ध होना चाहिये कि उनको नौकरियों में लिया जाय और ज्यादा रियायत दी जाय । ये लोग भूखे रहते हैं और बचपन ही से काम में लग जाते हैं इसलिये इनका क़द इतना लम्बा नहीं होता कि जितना कि और जातियों का होता है । मैं चाहता हूं कि उनको क़द के बारे में भी कुछ रियायत दी जानी चाहिये ।

सरदार ए० एस० सहगल : उनको चाहिये कि दंड बैठक करें ।

श्री रनदमन सिंह : यह तो आप करायेंगे तभी हो सकता है ।

तो मेरा कहना यह है कि जब तक इनकी आर्थिक और सामाजिक अवस्था में सुधार नहीं किया जायेगा तब तक ये शिक्षा की दिशा में भी आगे नहीं बढ़ सकते । हम आजकल देखते हैं कि हमारे कुछ हरिजन भाई आदिवासियों की अपेक्षा अधिक संख्या में शिक्षा पा गये हैं लेकिन उनको सरकारी विभागों में नहीं लिया जाता है । हमें डर है कि जब आदिवासी तैयार होंगे तो उनकी भी यही दशा होगी ।

आखिरी विषय यह है कि बहुत से आदिवासियों की गणना आदिवासियों में नहीं की गई है । यह किसी भूल के कारण हुआ है । मैं चाहता हूं कि इन लोगों को भी आदिवासियों में लिया जाय । खासतौर से मध्यप्रदेश में २४ लाख आदिवासी हैं, इसी तरह से बिहार में हैं, उत्तर प्रदेश में ३२ लाख आदिवासी हैं उनको नहीं गिना गया है । उत्तर प्रदेश में तो आदिवासियों का जिक्र ही नहीं किया गया है । ये लोग प्रोपेगेंडा करते हैं चिल्लाते हैं और अपनी मांग पेश कर रहे हैं कि इनको आदिवासियों में गिना जाय । वे कहते हैं कि उनके पड़ौसी प्रांतों में विवाह

[श्री रनदमन सिंह]

सम्बन्ध दूसरे आदिवासियों से हैं। इसके बारे में एक कमीशन द्वारा जांच भी हो चुकी है और शायद कमीशन ने अपनी रिपोर्ट भी दे दी है। इस बारे में मैंने पिछड़े वर्ग के कमिश्नर साहब को जबानी भी कहा है और लिखा भी है। पता नहीं कमिश्नर साहब ने इस ओर क्यों ध्यान नहीं दिया। और उन ग़रीबों के साथ अन्याय किया जा रहा है। आखिर में मैं.....

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : कितनी बार आखिर हो सकता है ?

श्री रनदमन सिंह : एक मिनट।

अब जो मंजूर शुदा रक़म आदिवासियों के लिये दी जाती है उसके बारे में मुझे कुछ कहना है वह रक़म दी जाती तो आदिवासियों और हरिजनों के नाम से है पर ज्यादातर बैकवर्ड लोगों पर खर्च हो जाती है। मैं इस बारे में यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि यदि यह रक़म आदिवासियों पर खर्च न हो पावे तो उसको वापस सरकारी खजाने में लेप्स होना चाहिये, नहीं तो नाम होता है दूसरों का और खर्च होता है दूसरों के लिये। इस बारे में ख्याल किया जाना चाहिये।

साथ साथ एक विषय और है। खास तौर से मध्य प्रदेश में आदिवासियों को ईसाई मिशनरी ईसाई बना रहे हैं। इस बारे में आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं। ये आदिवासी ईसाई ज्यादा पढ़े लिखे होते हैं और इसलिये जो रुपया आदिवासियों के लिये मंजूर किया जाता है उसमें से अधिकांश वे पा जाते हैं। दूसरे आदिवासी अभी उतने जागृत नहीं हैं। इसलिये वे उस रुपये को नहीं पा सकते। इसके अलावा जो आदिवासी पढ़कर तैयार भी होते हैं उनको कोई सड्यूलट्राइब तसदीक नहीं करता। एक आदिवासी मेम्बर होने के नाते बिहार से और उत्तर प्रदेश से पचासों मेरे पास रिपोर्ट आई हैं कि जिसम कुछ आदिवासियों ने बतलाया है कि वे पढ़कर तैयार हो गये हैं पर उनको कोई जगह नहीं दी जाती, न कोई उनकी तसदीक ही करता है। इसलिये धीरे धीरे इन लोगों में बेकारी बढ़ रही है। इसलिये मैं मंत्री महोदय और कमिश्नर महोदय का ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं। मेरी प्रार्थना है कि वे इस ओर ठोस क़दम उठाने का प्रयत्न करें। यह नहीं होना चाहिये जैसे कि हाथी के दांत दिखाने के और होते हैं और खाने के और होते हैं। काग़ज़ की नाव हमेशा नहीं चल सकती।

इसलिये मैं नम्रता से अर्ज करूंगा कि इस ओर आप विशेष रूप से ध्यान दें।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now, I call the hon. Deputy Minister.

Shri Balmiki: Sir, I am also a Schedule Caste Member and I should like to express my feelings.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: At the next opportunity now. I have already called on the Deputy Minister.

Shri Datar: We have had over 12 long hours' detailed discussion on the problems bearing on the conditions of the Schedule Castes and Schedule Tribes. We have had before us the reports for the years 1953 and 1954 and a number of hon. Members belonging to these castes and tribes as also those who do not belong to them have contributed very valuable suggestions for the Government and for others to act upon if this evil of untouchability as also the backwardness of these Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have to disappear within as short a period as possible. I am grateful to all the hon. Members who have taken part in this debate and who have spoken with evident earnestness, though sometimes, they were slow to find out what the Government have done. I have no time, Sir, within the very short time at my disposal, to deal with what the various State Governments have positively done in this respect. I am re-

questing the Commissioner to submit, along with his report for the year 1955, a full report of what the various State Governments have done during the first five year period after 1950 so that, if that document is placed before the House and if the House will go into the various measures that have been taken by the State Governments in this respect, then I make bold to suggest that the House will find that all our State Governments, inspite of all that has been stated against them, have been carrying on their work with a heroic effort and that they are, therefore, entitled to a measure of appreciation, if not actual gratitude. Now, this is a problem which is stupendous.....

Shri Velayudhan: Why would there be gratitude; it is only doing social justice?

Shri Kamath: He said: 'appreciate'.

Shri Datar: 'Appreciate' is quite all right. I have no doubt that the Governments have striven very hard and are trying to help us. Kindly take the phraseology in a proper way. It would not be proper to merely believe that nothing has been done by the State Governments or that only a very little has been done by the State Governments. I am, therefore, looking at this problem from the point of view of what is further to be done. Whatever we have done is already there and will be before the bar of the public opinion here as also the opinion outside; but, I would point out that though the pace is slow, the pace is certain and the pace of progress is steady. That is what I am trying to impress upon the hon. Members of this House on behalf of the numerous States which are trying hard in this respect. I may also point out that we are trying to have more funds.

Shri Balmiki: But, so far....

Shri Datar: Please sit down and I shall reply to all the charges now.

I may also point out to this hon. House that we are trying our best to improve the conditions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes at a far greater pace during the next Five Year Plan and for that purpose.....

Shri Dhusiya: Which is, unfortunately, not recognised by the Scheduled Castes people.

Shri Datar: ....we are trying to get more funds and place at the disposal of the State Governments more funds in this respect in addition to what the States themselves have done. Sometimes, what happens is that here in this case we are at a disadvantage. So far as the execution of the various schemes is concerned, it is by the State Governments and secondly, so far as the Centre is concerned, the Centre is supplementing the efforts which the State Governments have themselves been carrying on.

Shri Dhusiya: They are doing nothing.

Shri Datar: Please do not disturb now. The whole picture is not before us.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The subject has been discussed for twelve hours. If each hon. Member goes on interrupting, then there can be no end to this kind of disturbance. The hon. Minister will kindly proceed.

Shri Datar: I am submitting to this House that the whole picture will be understood, as I believe it will be, when the next report will be before this House along with what has been done by all the State Governments during the last five years. This is all that I have got to say so far as the alleged deficiency of work, as has been stated by many Members, is concerned. Government are fully aware that this is a very important problem. I would assure the hon. Members who the other day charged us with a feeling of self-satisfaction or self-complacency, that there can be no feeling of self-complacency and much less of self-satisfaction, because we are aware that this problem is concerned ultimately with the fate of the Indian nation. If nearly one-fifth of the population remains absolutely backward and remains under

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certain handicaps and disabilities, then democracy in India cannot succeed; a welfare State also cannot succeed. Therefore, in the larger interests of the country as a whole as also with the desire to help these unfortunate brethern, Government are fully seized of this problem and Government will do whatever is necessary to see that all these disabilities are a matter of the past and that progress is assured at a far greater pace than what has been possible during the last four or five years.

Secondly, there is a certain misapprehension in the minds of a number of people, namely, that all this has got to be done within ten years; that schemes for the improvement of betterment of the lot of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have to be executed only within ten years and that after ten years all this has to lapse. That is entirely incorrect. The Constitution has stated that the reservation of seats in Parliament and in the State legislatures has to be for a period of ten years. But the Constitution has laid down certain obligations upon the nation and upon the Governments in the country that the conditions of these people have got to be improved as early as possible. Therefore, let not the hon. Members feel impatient that after ten years all this work will be completely stopped. This work has got to be done not only within ten years but could extend even beyond ten years to the extent that is necessary.

Before I deal with some of the specific points, I would also request the hon. Members that whenever they go to their constituencies they should create public opinion in this respect not only with regard to the Harijans but also the non-Harijans. Now, no problem can be solved, with whatever money that the Government can spend, unless we have the active co-operation of an active, vigilant democracy. Therefore, for this task we require the co-operation not only of the various State Governments, not only of all the officers concerned, but also of the hon. Members as well as of the public at large. This work can be carried on with the full co-operation and co-ordination of effort between governmental and non-governmental agencies together and if this awareness is there on the part of the public as also on the part of the State Governments and of the Central Government, I am quite confident that this problem would be solved far earlier than what some hon. Members believe. I appreciate their impatience; I appreciate their desire that the conditions ought to improve as early as possible, and therefore, I would assure all those hon. friends that no effort will be wanting on our part to see that their conditions are improved as early as possible. All that I would implore with those hon. Members is that they ought to understand that this is a heritage of the past and the inequalities and the numerous disabilities from which they are suffering are a matter of history, of unfortunate history, and they have got to be removed and strongly faced. The whole citadel of orthodoxy or backwardness has to be demolished as early as possible. Therefore, I desire that we should have the co-operation of all the people. I am very happy that some hon. Members who did not belong to these unfortunate castes and tribes have also expressed their fully sympathy and support to the measures that the Government and the public have to take in this respect.

Now, I would proceed to mention a few points only because only a very short time is at my disposal. It was contended that though the Untouchability (Offences) Act was passed by Parliament in the last session, still, nothing has been done. So far as the Government are concerned, Government are taking steps to see that whenever such offences are committed, quick action is taken. As the House is aware, this is a cognizable

offence and the State Governments have already issued instructions that the provisions of this Act have to be duly enforced. But you will realise that some time would be necessary for making the whole machinery absolutely ready for investigation and for prosecution under this measure. This is a penal measure and, therefore, we shall be issuing instructions to the Governments of the States that copies of this Act should be printed in the various regional languages and the matter should be broadcast in all the villages in the rural areas. I would also invite the all-India associations and other associations dealing with this problem to take part in this work and to see that the provisions are known to all the people concerned. So far as police officers or other officers of Government are concerned, you will see that it is their duty to investigate offences, because the offences under this Act are cognizable offences and if any instance comes to the notice of the Central Government or the State Governments of either a dereliction of duty or an omission to do anything proper, then, I would point out to the House that Governments are there to take as strong a notice of such action or omission on the part of the officers and take suitable action. You will find that you have got an Act solemnly passed by the Parliament and any infringement of the provisions of this Act, any neglect to enforce the provisions of this Act, would be a misconduct on the part of the officers. I would see that the State Governments again issue instructions in this matter, but ultimately, you will find that we require the co-operation of the public also. The public has also to be vigilant and if that is achieved, then, next time you will have instances where our police officers have taken cognizance of these cases and have duly investigated and that the persons concerned are brought to book. I would see that whatever possible is done and that the people are made aware of the penal provisions of this statute, though, as you, Sir, would agree in some cases, even where injustice happens people are slow to see that the provisions are taken advantage of, because there are other disadvantages also.

Shri Velayudhan: This provision is ineffective and it could not be applied. Judges and lawyers have expressed their difficulty.

Shri Datar: I have not been able to find out any passage in any judgment in connection with the administration of this Act. If there are any difficulties, then we are prepared to place an amendment before this House. But we are anxious that the provisions of this Act are fully availed of for the purpose of creating a feeling of fear in the members of the other Hindu communities. The other sections of Hindu society must understand that untouchability has not only been abolished, but it is an offence to practise it. If they do it, they do it at their own cost. I would not deal with the question of services at length, because I have dealt with it at very great length in the other House and the hon. Home Minister has also dealt with some aspects of this question. We are trying to do our best to increase the intake. The increase in intake is bound to be gradual; it cannot be sudden. I would only point out to this House that this is a very big problem. It is not a question of distribution of patronage at all; it is a question of appointment of proper officers. We are anxious to see that as large a number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes members are taken in service as possible and whatever can be done in this respect will surely be done. As I pointed out to this House, we are having a special section where the question of recruitment has been constantly kept in view. An hon. Member on this side asked me as to what we were going to do so far as the non-enforcement of the policy of the Government was concerned. We have got Ministers at the head of various Ministries and whenever it is found that in the matter of any promotion, a Schedule Castes or

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Scheduled Tribes members is superseded, that case has got to go to the Minister; the Minister will have to satisfy himself that the supersession, if it was there, was proper. If he comes to the conclusion that it was wrong, then it will be set aside. Therefore, our Government are taking every step possible; let not the House be under the notion that Government are against the untouchables or against the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes. Government do desire that there should be a fairly adequate representation, so far as these sections of the Hindu community are concerned.

I will now deal with certain points that were raised during the debate. One point was about census enumerations. As a result of 1955 enumeration, certain difficulties have been pointed out. Government have considered these difficulties and have met them in certain cases. I would point out in this connection that even before the 1951 elections were to be held, the Government took a policy decision in 1949 or 1950 that so far as the enumeration of individual castes was concerned, that enumeration should not be there at all, because it was the desire and view of Government that there should be a casteless and classless society. Therefore, when the preparations for the holding of the 1951 elections were going on, then a policy decision was taken that there ought not to be any enumeration of castes, sects etc. But Government made an exception, because ultimately the Constitution also was going to make an exception. They had three columns for these classes. One was the Scheduled Castes column, the second was the Scheduled Tribes column and the third was with regard to certain backward classes of society, which were so recognised by the various States. On the basis of this, after the Constitution was promulgated, the President issued orders regarding the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. These orders were prepared on the strength of the material that was given to us by the various State Governments. Unfortunately, what happened was, though the various castes were mentioned, certain common names, synonyms for example, were not mentioned at all. Therefore, instead of giving the name of a particular Scheduled Caste recognised by the order, they gave the general name. For example, in certain cases the name 'Harijan' was given. In the South sometimes they say adi karnataka, adi andhra or adi dravida; these names were given and ultimately when the question of enumeration came up, they could not take cognizance of those names, because "Harijan" or other names were not put in there. Thus, there was a certain deficiency and certain communities could not be entered in the enumeration list at all. For instance, in the State of Madhya Bharat, where I had gone only the other day, I found that before the elections were held, the members of a certain community were of the view that they should not call themselves as Scheduled Castes members. There was a particular community, a very large and well-placed community, which also refused to be called as "untouchables"; they called themselves not as a backward comumnity. In respect of the column about backward classes also, the names of the various communities were not mentioned at all and all the persons who belonged to any one or other of backward communities were clubbed together. Similarly, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were also clubbed together.

Shri Dhusiya: I would like to point out that those people, who do not wish themselves to be called as Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes members, are induced to say like that.

Shri Datar: What happened was that in certain cases, the number fell down and the State Government also took up this question with us. The Hyderabad Government, the Saurashtra

Government, the Bihar Government and certain other Governments also took up this question. For example, there is the washermen community. This community is known by various names; in certain parts of Deccan and Bombay State, they are called *pareet, dhobi, rajak, agasika* and so on. Some of these names, especially multilingual names, were not mentioned. These difficulties had to be met. Immediately on receipt of these complaints, the Government had the whole matter examined. Now they have set right the enumerations so far as these communities are concerned, in the case of Saurashtra and Hyderabad. So far as Bihar and U. P. are concerned, we are considering the question. Especially in the case of Bihar, the problem bacame very difficult in the district of Darbhanga; somehow the figures are not clear as far as this District is concerned. We have asked the superintendent there to find out the reason for this smallness in the number. In this district, the number of Scheduled Castes members was also very small. Possibly some of the reasons that I have pointed out may also be there in the other districts. We are examining this question also in the case of Mysore and Madras, where the number is fairly large. Government have already taken some action and now the Delimitation Commission also have accepted our conclusions, so far as Saurashtra and Hyderabad are concerned. Ultimately, you will find that the number is not very large. I have got here the figures and they would show that this number is not so large as the hon. Member might believe. I would point out that the smallness of number is not very great. So far as the whole State of Bihar is concerned, the number fell by 3,37,000. In the case of Madras it was about 8 lakhs and in Hyderabad it was 3,73,000. So far as Mysore is concerned, the number fell by 1,30,000. All these figures are in respect of Scheduled Castes. So far as the Delhi State is concerned, there the position was a bit more awkward. What happened was this. So far as the electoral rolls and the constituencies for the last general elections were concerned, they had to depend upon the 1941 census figures. As the 1951 census figures were not available, in the case of Delhi, they took into account the figures regarding Punjab. That list was not the correct list. The whole matter was gone into and it was found that even according to the 1951 Census, the figure would not be very great at all. Originally, it was 2 lakhs and odd. Then, it became 268,000 or 269,000. Even in this case also, the number is not much. I would not go into further details because my time is up. But, I would point out to the House that wherever there have been any legitimate grounds, Government have taken all proper steps and they have also recounted the slips in certain cases. Government are anxious that in the case of all proved deficiencies or omissions, proper amends should be made. They would be so made and at the general elections, the persons who are concerned will be duly notified either as Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes.

2 P.M.

There was the question about the Backward Classes Commission's report. I am not dealing with that question. But, you are aware, Sir, that we requested the Backward Classes Commission to point out whether there are any defects by way of omission of commission so far as the three President's Orders were concerned. We received from them certain lists and these lists are under examination. We are consulting the State Governments. As soon as we receive the information from the State Governments and a final decision is taken, due effect will be given to that by bringing in an amendment here so far as the President's Orders are concerned, because, ultimately it would be the pleasure only of the Parliament to

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make any amendments either about the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes.

Shri Rane (Bhusaval): When will that report be available to the public?

Shri Datar: It will take some time. We are examining it. We will have to consult the State Governments also.

I would not say further about the Anglo-Indians. That question is likely to be considered shortly. But, I would point out in all these connections that we have got before us figures that in certain cases, the number of candidates available was far less than the actual positions to be filled up. Secondly, as far as these Public Service Commissions, either the Railway Public Service Commissions or the other Commissions are concerned, they can be approached by private associations only on the question of principle. They cannot and they should not purport to nominate certain persons. If there is any individual or personal consideration, it becomes very awkward for the Commissions to deal with them. Then, you will find that just as we have in the U.P.S.C an hon. Member from the Scheduled Castes, similarly also, in one of the Railway Commissions, we have a Harijan member. If I mistake not, one of the Chairman of these Railway Commissions is an Anglo-Indian. These also will show that the Government are trying their best.

Even in respect of the complaint about reduction of grants, Government will see to it that no reductions are made. Even in the case of one Government where, on account of a misunderstanding about the provisions in the Constitution regarding the Anglo-Indians, a certain amount was not given you are aware that under Article 336 the grants are to be gradually reduced by 10 per cent. In that particular case, inasmuch as the grant given was less in a particular year, on account of a misunderstanding on a point of law, next year, there was no reduction in the grant at all. I would submit that so far as the Anglo-Indians are concerned, Government stand by the assurances that they have given in the Constitution. There is no desire on the part of the Government to depart from or get rid of any assurances that we have given to them. They are only for 10 years. All the Ministries, the Railway Ministry has also the Central Board of Revenue, are anxious that whatever has been promised should be fully implemented in the interests of the Scheduled Castes.

Something was said about grievances by my hon. friend Shri Naval Prabhakar. I would examine all these grievances about Delhi. I would also like to point out this. On one occasion, an hon. Lady Member made certain aspersions against a public association to which a grant was being given by the Government. It is an association which is run by the Servants of the People Society. This Society was started by the late Lala Lajpat Rai. Some hon. Members like Shri Tandon, Shri B. G. Mehta, Shri Algu Rai Shastri are members of the Committee. The Vimukta Jathi Sangh has Shrimati Rameshwari Nehru as the Chairman. Whenever any irregularities take place, they are brought to their notice and steps are taken to rectify them. Unfortunately, the name of a person against whom actually a prosecution is pending was mentioned here as a great social worker. When a prosecution is pending, it would be wrong either to condemn the man or praise him also. I submit, especially in India, we have to be very particular about the reputation of private associations. These associations are doing very good work. Anything that is said on the floor of the House on the basis of materials which are likely to be at least one-sided, is likely to affect the public. Therefore, I would implore on hon. Members not to bring in any public associations. If they have any complaint that the affairs are not be-

ing carried on properly, I would assure this hon. House that we will take proper action. In this particular case, to ward off all suspicions, what we have done is we are helping this Association through the Delhi Government. The Delhi Government are exercising full supervision over whatever is being done by the Vimukta Jathi Sangh.

Shri Ramananda Das: On a point of information, may I know whether the Government will set up an enquiry committee about the conduct of Sewak Ram in exploiting these people?

Shri Datar: Whatever is necessary has been done. If the hon. Member has got any difficulties, if the hon. Member has got any complaint, he is welcome to come to me at any time and I am prepared to make full enquiries and see that no injustice is done, no wrong is done by any person or any society which is receiving help from the Government.

A number of other suggestions have been made. I would point out that we have taken steps to mitigate all hardships. As regards certificates required with an application to the Education Ministry, we have laid it down that these certificates ought to be given by officers. These certificates cannot be given, on the face of it, by non-officials, because certain enquiries have to be made. If a certain certificate has been given by a Government servant, he will be hauled up and a departmental enquiry will be started. That is not the case with non-officials. Therefore, we have to depend on the officers' report and officers' certificate, because they have got at their disposal certain materials from which they can find out whether a certain certificate should be given or should not be given. As regards delay in the payment of the grants by the Education Ministry, sometimes delays do take place. The problem, you will find, is extremely stupendous. Even so far as the examinations, matriculation or school final or corresponding examinations are concerned, the results are declared in some cases even in June, and immediately applications are received. This year, you will find that 54,000 applications have been received. The Government are going to give scholarships to the tune of Rs. 1,30,00,000. All these applications have to be scanned. A special staff has been appointed. Sometimes, we receive requests for postponing the date for the receipt of these applications. Therefore we have issued instructions that in all cases where an application is *prima facie* tenable, that particular student should not be denied the opportunity of admission or continuance in the college on the ground of delay in the payment of money. That question is also being examined and whatever is possible will be done.

Shri Kamath: Standing instructions?

Shri Datar: Standing and sitting. Hon Members are also represented on the Advisory Bodies. When such a large amount is being given Rs. 1,30,00,000 we desire that that amount should be utilised by or received by the person as early as possible.

Shri Kamath: I am not on the Committee.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: (Khamman): We are not on the Committee.

Shri Datar: I would not take any further time on the question of this issue. Only one point. My hon friend has suggested.....

पंडित ठाकुरदास भार्गव : मैं एक सवाल करना चाहता हूं । पिछले साल भी और इस साल भी इस हाउस में यह बड़ी सख्त शिकायत की गई है कि जितना रुपया आप शिड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्ज को देते हैं, उसका बड़ा हिस्सा क्रिश्चियन्ज को दिया जाता है और दूसरे लोगों को उसका अश्रे-अशीर भी नहीं मिलता है । आप इस क्वेश्चन को एग्जामिन करवाइये और अगर यह बात दुरुस्त है, तो इस बारे में इन्साफ करवाइये और अगर ग़लत है, तो फिर इसको छोड़ दीजिये ।

Shri Datar: So far as this question is concerned, I have myself made the position clear in this House at one

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time. So far as the Scheduled Castes are concerned, they are to be Hindus. The moment they cease to be Hindus...

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: My question is about the Scheduled Tribes.

Shri Datar: I am explaining the position. I know your question.

So far as the Scheduled Castes are concerned, they have got to be Hindus. If, for example, they are converted to any other religion, they cease to be Scheduled Castes and therefore they cease to have any of the advantages. But so far as the Scheduled Tribes are concerned, they can belong to any religion, because no such discrimination or reservation has been made in the case of the enumeration of the Scheduled Tribes, and therefore, the question that my hon. friend has raised is a difficult one, a ticklish one. If for example, amongst the Christians among the Scheduled Tribes there are many students that apply and if those applications are fairly valid, then it would be entirely wrong on the part of the Government to deny a scholarship to a Scheduled Tribe student merely because he is a Christian. It is true....

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: This is not my complaint at all.

जो लड़के ठीक हैं, चाहे वे हिन्दू हों या ईसाई, उनको जरूर दीजिये, लेकिन शिकायत तो है यह कि जो नान-क्रिश्चियन्ज हैं, उनको उनका हिस्सा तो क्या उसका उश्रे-अशीर भी नहीं मिलता है । एक आनरेबल मेम्बर ने इस बारे में फिगर्ज दिये हैं जो कि बड़े रिवीलिंग है । आप उनकी स्पीच को पढ़िये और इस मामले को एग्जामिन करवाइये

Shri Datar: All right. I know what the hon. Member has stated. He says that non-Christian Scheduled Tribes boys do not get their full share. This is on the assumption that there is a further division between the Scheduled Tribes as such. You cannot make a distinction between the Scheduled Tribes, and therefore we treat all the applications of boys and girls of the Scheduled Tribes.....

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: All the money cannot be given to one tribe or one caste or one section of the people.

Shri Datar: We cannot make a distinction *inter se* so far as the Scheduled Tribes are concerned, and therefore all that we can do is that we can encourage the other members of the Scheduled Tribes by asking the State Governments to give them grants, if, for example, the disparity between the two is very great. But it has to be clearly understood that so far as this post-matriculate scholarships are concerned, they have to be strictly on merit, within the purview of the merit that has been laid down, and there it would be very difficult for the Education Ministry to make a distinction between a Christian Scheduled Tribe and non-Christian Scheduled Tribe.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: I do not want discrimination. The interests of non-Christian members of Scheduled Tribes also should equally be taken into consideration.

Shri Datar: That question also will be considered subject to this general observation.

Shri Balmiki: I want to put one question.

Shri Datar: An hon. friend wants to know what steps Government are taking regarding the All-India services. So far as the all-India services and the Central Secretariat services of the higher classes are concerned, what we do desire is this. It is true that the intake is very small, in some cases it is very low also. That is on account of the fact which was mentioned by my hon. friend Shri Kureel himself. These unfortunate people have to pass through very great difficulties and their environments are highly discouraging to educational attainments,

and therefore it is that a very large number of these people fail in the personality test. Whenever a boy or a girl passes the written test as also the personality test among these Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, then so far as those persons who are qualified are concerned, we are taking them whatever the order of their merit may be. We have done it as a special case. Otherwise, we take candidates in the order of merit, but so far as the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are concerned, we go further down within the list of qualified persons, and therefore what my hon. friend stated is not correct at all.

With respect to the personality test, that is an absolutely essential test. You cannot trifle with that test.

Shri Velayudhan: Why?

Shri Datar: I am explaining. These candidates are going to be placed in charge of districts and therefore we have to be very careful that these officers are properly trained, and therefore what we are now considering is this. Before actually they appear either for the written test or for the personality test, we should see to it that they pass through a coaching class where they would receive proper coaching or tuition. If that is done, then naturally it is quite likely that more candidates would pass through both of these tests. Government have certain schemes before them, and Government would be very glad to help such students because we do desire that their number should be as large as possible. Therefore, a pre-examination coaching or training is now under contemplation.

Shri Ramananda Das: Adequate power should be given to the Commissioner.

Shri Datar: That is for the hon. sovereign Parliament to consider. I have explained the position. According to article 338, the Commissioner has merely to investigate and report. He has no executive power at all, nor has the Central Government any executive power in this respect. We have to depend upon the State Governments, and I am happy to state that the State Governments are carrying on their work in a fairly satisfactory manner.

Shri Deogam (Chaibassa—Reserved Scheduled Tribes): What about tribal welfare?

Shri Datar: So far as tribal welfare is concerned, Government are giving special attention to it, and I would invite the hon. Member's attention to a leaderette in the *Indian Express* of today. Therein it has pointed out to the Government and the public that while it is necessary that these people have to be brought up according to our standards, we have to preserve their culture, and it has counselled patience. It has stated that any fast rate of progress is likely to dislocate the whole condition.

Shri Balmiki: The other day the hon. Home Minister stated that as a result of the enquiry conducted by the Backward Classes Commission, the lists of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes are to be revised and greater representation is contemplated by the Government. May I know if the Government have directed Election Commission to carve out more constituencies for them?

Shri Datar: The work is now at a preliminary stage. We have to receive the opinions of the State Governments in respect of the recommendations made by the Backward Classes Commission, and after Government have taken a decision regarding either keeping a particular caste or tribe or taking it away, or adding to it, Government will certainly make a reference to the Delimitation Commission and take all other steps.

Some Hon. Members *rose*—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Do all want to put questions simultaneously?

Sardar A. S. Saigal: I want one clarification.

Shri Kamath: On a point of order.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is the point of order?

Shri Kamath: Is it in order for the hon. Minister to quote whatever the *Indian Express* or any other news paper has said in a leader or leaderette as the authority for something that he says?

Shri Datar: It has quoted the opinion of Dr. Elwin who is a great authority on Scheduled Tribes. I am merely pointing out. It is for him to accept.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is no harm. Already we have exceeded the time by half an hour. The other Ministry is waiting there.

श्री बाल्मीकि : मैं एक दूसरा सवाल पूछना चाहता हूं ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have allowed sufficient number of questions. Now, I will take up the motions. Hon. Members who want their motions to be put will kindly say so.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury (Ghatal): I want to press my substitute motion No. 13.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted;

"This House having considered the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the period ending the 31st December, 1953, regrets that due steps have not been taken to safeguard their interests"

The motion was negatived.

Shri Kamath: I want to press my substitute motion No. 1[a].

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for 1954, regrets that the measures taken by Government for the advancement of Scheduled Castes, and particularly Scheduled Tribes, have been inadequate and unsatisfactory.'

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There are some substitute motions in the name of Shri Naval Prabhakar. Does the hon Member want to press any of them?

श्री नवल प्रभाकर : मैं २ और ३ को प्रेस करना चाहता हूं । गृह मंत्री जी ने इन सुझावों को मान लिया है और हरिजनों के लिये वैलफेयर बोर्ड बनाने का आश्वासन दे दिया है ।

Shri Datar: The matter is under consideration. After consideration, the board will be set up.

Shri Naval Prabhakar: I am not pressing the motions.

Shri K. K. Basu: We want that substitute motion No. 25 may be put to vote

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for 1954, recommends that the State Governments shall ensure that before 1960—

(a) every Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes family at least 5 cents of house-site in rural areas and hundred square yards in urban areas;

(b) a sum not less than Rs. 200/- is provided for each such of those families who do not own a house costing more than 500 rupees; and

(c) every Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes family who is engaged in agriculture, is provided with at least four acres of land."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I take it that the other motions are not pressed They are deemed to be negatived. No amendments to the original motions have been carried.

MOTION *RE*: WHITE PAPER ON GATT

The Minister of Commerce and Industry and Iron and Steel (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): I beg to move:

"That the White Paper on the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade be taken into consideration."

In asking the House to consider the White Paper on the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade or the GATT as it is popularly known, I feel I should give the House the historical background of the General Agreement without which it is perhaps somewhat difficult for many of the hon. Members to consider it in its proper perspective.

Before the war, there was no international agreement governing international trade. The grant of most favoured nation treatment in the matter of tariffs was a matter of bilateral negotiation and agreements. Every country was free to give preferences or to follow discriminatory policies in regard to tariffs and quotas. There were no checks on dumping or subsidised exports either.

After the war, an attempt was made through the Charter of the United Nations and its subsidiary bodies to promote international understanding not merely in political but also in economic and social matters as well. Seventeen countries, including our own country, were invited to be members of the preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Employment, which was set up to frame a charter for an International Trade Organisation. This committee held its first session in London towards the close of 1946. It came to the conclusion that it would be desirable to have negotiations to lower tariff and other trade barriers, and to eliminate preferences even before the coming into being of the International Trade Organisation. Accordingly, in 1947, 23 countries took part in tariff negotiations at Geneva, as a result of which import duties on several thousands of items were lowered or bound against future increase by the countries that participated in the conference.

Although the tariff negotiations were conducted bilaterally beween countries which wanted concessions from each other, the benefits of the concessions were, on the principle of the most favoured nation treatment between member countries, applicable equally to all the signatories. As a result of these negotiations, India received certain tariff concessions, either directly or indirectly, on most of her important export commodities, *e.g.* on jute yarn and manufactures from the USA. Canada, New Zealand, Australia etc., on cotton textiles from Australia, New Zealand, Canada etc., on coir yarn and manufactures from the USA, Australia, the Benelux countries etc., on tea from USA, Canada, France etc., on woollen carpets and rugs from USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, etc., on pepper, ginger and other spices from Australia, USA, the Benelux countries etc.

I shall not try to enumerate here all the details of the concessions given to India's export trade, which were negotiated at Geneva and also at subsequent conferences organised by the GATT in Annecy and Torquay. An up to date analysis of these concessions has been recently published and made available to this House. All that I want to emphasise now is that the basic objective of the conference in Geneva was a reduction in tariffs. Nevertheless it was felt that if these concessions were to be of real value, there must be some trade rules to ensure that by quota restrictions and other similar devices their benefits were not nullified. It was also neces-

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sary to have suitable administrative arrangements to ensure that the signatory countries fulfilled their tariffs commitments and observed these rules. While it was recognised that ultimately the contemplated International Trade Organisation will take over all these matters, a provisional agreement on these matters was considered necessary. It was to meet this need that the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade was drawn up.

The GATT consisted of three parts, Part I dealing with the tariff concessions, Part II with general trade rules, and Part III with administrative matters. Among the administrative provisions embodied in Part III, it was made clear that the GATT was intended to be a provisional agreement to operate until the Havana Charter had come into force, and that the whole GATT would have to be reviewed if the Havana charter did not come into force. The charter which was drawn up at Havana in March 1948, as the House knows, has remained a dead letter, and the GATT has continued to be applied provisionally by its signatories. Such of those hon. Members who were in the previous Parliament would remember that we had a discussion on this particular aspect of the matter, namely, the provisions of the GATT and also the Havana charter in 1949 when a very distinguished predecessor of mine moved a Bill to amend the tariffs to implement the GATT then entered into. In accordance with the provisions of the GATT, a review of its Articles became necessary. This review was undertaken in Geneva last winter. Its objectives were firstly to consider amendments to the GATT itself where necessary and secondly to provide for the setting up of an organisation to administer it, since the International Trade Organisation which was to administer the Havana Charter had not come into being.

While preparing for the review, my Ministry consulted important commercial and industrial interests in the country as well as some leading economists, both within and outside the Government. The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry as well as the Associated Chambers of Commerce were invited to express their views on the subject. My hon. friend Shri Bansal, who is also the Secretary-General of the Federation, was personally associated with the studies which led to the formulation of the brief to the Indian Delegation to the Geneva Conference and I am happy to say that Shri Bansal also agreed to be a member of that Delegation. In the final stages the Planning Commission and the Tariff Commission were closely associated with the formulation of this brief. Naturally, all these consultations had to be confidential. If our views on various aspects of the GATT were already known in advance to other countries, our Delegation would have been handicapped in its work.

This detailed study which we undertook led us to the conclusion that by and large the provisions of the GATT were in accord with our own thinking and our interests. But in certain respects it needed modification not only from our point of view but also in the interests of many other countries who, like us are anxious to develop their economies at a faster pace.

Speaking broadly, the GATT has three objectives: firstly, to eliminate discrimination, secondly, to abolish unfair practices of all kinds, and, thirdly, to reduce barriers which stand in the way of smooth flow of international trade. Basically, we are interested whole heartedly in the first two objectives. We do not believe in discrimination. In fact, in our trade set-up and the rules that govern our trade, we have made only one exception to this general rule; and at the time that we agreed to the GATT as it originally stood we invoked the provisions of article 35 in the case of only one country, but that has been for reasons which is not the subject matter of the present discussion.

Secondly, our import licences are, generally speaking, valid for the entire world, with the exception of the Dollar Area, for which on account of dollar shortage we have to be more restrictive. Likewise, in the matter of tariffs, we do not have a discriminatory rate applicable to countries who do not have a Most Favoured Nation Agreement with us. We do grant preferences to certain specified goods originating in particular countries within and outside the Commonwealth. We continue these preferences largely because so long as some countries enjoy preferences in particular markets, we cannot afford to give up our own preferences. The GATT prevents the creation of new preferences, and as a result of the tariff negotiations under the GATT the area of preference has considerably reduced.

I would now like to turn to the second aim of the GATT, namely, to provide a set of trade rules to regulate international commerce. In this category come matters such as the freedom of transit, methods of valuation for customs purposes and formalities connected with import and export. There are also provisions to deal with questionable practices like subsidies and dumping. All these are matters where we can unhesitatingly subscribe to the principles of the GATT. Indeed they are necessary in our own interests. We in this country do not give subsidies, open or hidden, to our exports. We do not dump goods in other markets. But if others do not follow a similar code, clearly our exports as well as our domestic industries would suffer. Our study of the problem convinced us that so far as non-discrimination and trade rules were concerned the GATT not only deserved our support but its provisions should if anything be strengthened.

It is when we turned to the question of reducing trade barriers that we felt that the provisions of the GATT needed amendment. As a country with a substantial stake in international trade we could certainly subscribe to the principle that there should be the minimum of obstacles to its smooth flow. We have many industries dependent on export markets. These are important industries like the jute industry, the tea industry, the mica industry and the coir industry, to name only a few. We do not want these industries to suffer on account of unjustified restrictions.

There is, however, another angle to this problem. In the course of our economic development it is inevitable that we should seek to discourage particular lines of imports in order that our own industries producing similar goods may grow and expand. Indeed such restrictions as countries in early stages of development place on trade in order to accelerate their industrial development will in the long run lead to a larger volume of international trade. For as the standard of living rises the demand for imports also goes up. This point had been recognised when the original GATT had been drafted by providing in article XVIII for special measures to promote economic development. But the problem which the industrially advanced countries have in this respect are greatly different from those confronting a country which is in the early stages of development, and it was this point which the old GATT had overlooked. Because whatever concessions it gave in manner of placing restrictions on the movement of trade or protection of industries was intended primarily for the purpose of tiding over a transitional period after the war. The conclusion which we came to was that it was essential to ensure that the GATT in its attempt to promote a smooth flow of international trade did not deprive those countries which were still in the process of building up new industries of the right and freedom to place restrictions in the interests of economic development.

May I, Sir, with your permission, examine the provisions of the GATT in this respect? In tariffs, the GATT gave its signatories a completely free hand except where the country concerned had during the course of tariff

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negotiations voluntarily agreed to give any tariff concessions in return for any concessions which it had asked for and received. This was in no sense an unfair position. What was necessary, however, was that there should be a suitable procedure to enable countries in the process of rapid economic development to withdraw concessions on particular items without too much difficulty or delay if such a course was necessary in the interests of their development. Secondly, the GATT stipulated that quantitative restrictions on trade should not be used, except when a country is in balance of payments difficulties. As I said before, this particular difficulty was envisaged during the transition period after the last war. By and large, there is a good deal of sense in this particular concession. Although most industries welcome protection through import control, industrialists are apt to forget the interests of consumer if competition is totally shut out and that is a fact which as Commerce and Industry Minister I am experiencing every day. But there are situations, particularly in under-developed countries, in which a new industry cannot survive without import restrictions and the judgment we felt must in the last analysis remain with the Government concerned. Further, balance of payments difficulties, which the GATT has rightly accepted as sufficient justification for imposing quantitative restrictions on imports, are for countries undertaking a major programme of economic development, something chronic and not merely a passing phase. It seems to us that these special features of the economy of an under-developed country had not received adequate recognition in the GATT. I would like to illustrate it by mentioning one or two industries, where we have specifically gone out, apart from the question of balance of payments difficulties, to put quantitative restriction, where the results have been surprisingly good. I have mentioned the House before about the bicyle industry which produced something like 60,000 units in 1952, and which is expected to produce this year somewhere about 490,000 units Similarly, in the case of the art silk industry, where the two units we had were in doldrums, we now have not only those units expanding once and twice, but many other units coming into being. Here we have the experience where by using quantitative restrictions judiciously we have tack developed nascent industries. At the same time, this question of balance of payments difficulties which I mentioned was a thing chronic for under-developed countries, may look to an outsider as being something unreal. In fact, during the years 1953 and part of 1954, we were building up our sterling balances, and I think we had very nearly added a hundred and odd crores of rupees to our sterling balances. It is quite open to the IMF or any other international organisation to say— 'Here you are building your foreign resources; how could you say that you have balance of payments difficulties?' Now, what we had in mind actually was that that is only a passing phase of prosperity. When we have a large programme of industrialisation in view, assuredly balance of payments difficulties will occur as time goes on, and I propose to deal with it later on.

Accordingly, we gave the Indian delegation a clear brief to press for amendments to the articles of the GATT to secure two objectives: firstly, under-developed countries like India should be enabled to use quantitative restrictions on import in order to fulfil their programme of economic development, and to assist the development of particular industries; and secondly, sufficient flexibility regarding the bound rates of tariffs should be secured to enable under-developed countries to make changes as and when new industries develop.

During the review session of the GATT, the Indian delegation received strong support for our points of view from all the under-developed countries, and even the more advanced countries conceded the force of our contentions. In fact, I would like to

tell the House that the under-developed countries practically all over the world looked to us for guidance, and it is matter of some satisfaction, I am sure to the Government as well as to this House, that in the trust they reposed on our delegation, they had not reposed that trust in vain. As a reuslt, the GATT has undergone many changes which, I am sure, the House will welcome. The White Paper contains an analysis of the amendments, but I feel I must add some comments to elucidate them, for the GATT, unfortunately, has a somewhat abstrust text which it is not easy for a lay reader to follow.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: (Gurgaon): Quite right.

Shri T. T. Krishnamacnari: I would like to say so with apologies to Shri Kasliwal who produced in one of the newspapers this morning a brilliant survey of the GATT and its provisions.

Shri Kamath (Hoshangabad): He is not a layman.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am told that in certain countries candidates for diplomatic appointment are confronted with an article of the GATT, and asked what it means. This hurdle apparently defeats a large number of them. The House will, therefore, permit me to refer to the articles which are of special interests to us in some detail.

Obviously, our main concern is with those provisions of the GATT which affect restrictions on imports either through tariffs or otherwise. While we are anxious like all countries to promote our exports and to see that they face the minimum impediments, our main concern at present is with ensuring that the GATT should not stand in the way of measures which we may find necessary to adopt in fulfilment of our plans for economic development.

To meet the special position of the under-developed countries in this respect, article XVIII has been wholly revised. It begins with the recognition that there should be special facilities for the development of economies which can only support low standards of living and are in the early stages of development. There are thus two criteria laid down for the use of these special provisions. If a country is under-developed, in the sense that there are vast resources which have not yet been tapped, but which has a high standard of living, for example, a country like Australia, it can have recourse to some provisions of article XVIII but not to all of them. The same applies to a country which has a low standard of living, but is very well developed economically, *e.g.* Japan. The article is really intended for countries which suffered in entirely from both handicaps, like India, Pakistan, Burma, Indonesia and several South American countries. Provisions for these have been made in sections A, B and C of the article. Section D deal with countries still in the process of development but not having a low standard of living. Therefore, for our present purposes, we might focus attention on the provisions of sections A, B and C of article XVIII.

Section A of article XVIII provides for the more flexible use of tariffs as an instrument of industrial development. I have already said that the GATT originated with the reduction and binding of tariffs on a large number of items. On items which were not bound during these negotiations, the GATT places no restriction. A country can have as high a tariff as it chooses on items not bound. But it may well happen that after giving a concession on a particular item, the country finds it necessary to make a change in the duty on that item. Such a contingency may arise in the case of any country, but as a rule, it is much more likely to arise in the case of countries which are engaged in a programme of economic development. To meet this position, article XXVIII has been amended to make changes possible with greater flexibility. An interpretative note has been added to the revised article XXVIII—hon. Members will find it towards the end of the White Paper—to make it clear that countries depending in a large mea-

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sure on relatively small number of primary commodities and relying on the tariff as an important aid for further diversification of their economies or as an important source of revenue should be given permission to negotiate for the modification or withdrawal of tariff concessions, even during the period when these concessions are bound against any increase.

Section A of artcile XVIII provides further facilities to under-developed countries to raise tariffs on bound items in order to promote the establishment of particular industries. Under this section, tariffs changes can be made not only when there is agreement, but even if there is no agreement between the parties concerned, the GATT organisation can, if it finds that the applicant country has offered adequate compensation, authorise the withdrawal of the concession. Even when the compensation offered is not adequate, if the country concerned has made every reasonable effort to offer such a concession, it may still withdraw the concession, but in that event the country whose interest is injured by this withdrawal can withdraw a substantially equivalent concession to compensate for its loss.

I would like to tell hon. Members that this is a contingency that we foresee will occur practically every year. So far as we are concerned, it does happen that some of our industries which are developed under a high tariff wall or by quota restrictions did get enough elbow-room for them to do without this quota restriction and they can stand competition, in which case we have something to offer to the country where we have bound a particular item and say, 'Well, on this, we will take away the quota restriction; what have you to offer?' I mean this way we might even have a certain amount of 'horse trading' made possible under the revised terms of article XVIII. Of course, it sounds somewhat complicated. But in practice, as I have given an illustration, it is comparatively easy. One of the strong points of the GATT, though it sounds very formidable, is its approach to concrete problems in a very realistic manner. Only recently, we had to negotiate for a release from the tariff binding on a wide range of coal tar dyes. We had given a concession on this item in 1947 when we had no idea to make coal tar dyes in the country. As an important raw material of our textile industry, we did not mind allowing imports of coal tar dyes on a low tariff. We do that today. Many of the raw materials of our industries are allowed to come in on low tariff rates. In fact some of them have only a negligible duty to pay. As, however, now we have started making dyestuffs in the country, we have been able to secure a release from this binding for the dyes which we make or expect to make. Even so we have a quota restriction, because the tariff wall is not adequate, at any rate it has not fulfilled the purpose that we want it to do for several other reasons. Our total imports of coal tar dyes have in recent years amounted to nearly Rs. 12 crores a year. We have been able to get this release by agreeing to bind the rates of duty which were already in existence on items such as intermediates which go into the making of dyestuffs, homoeopathic medicines, patent foods for infants and invalids and scientific and surgical instruments.

Secion B of Article XVIII deals with quantitative restrictions on imports imposed with a view to safeguard a country's external balance of payments. Article XI of the GATT lays down that quantitative restrictions should, generally speaking, be eliminated. Article XII provides the major exception to this and lays down that import restrictions may be maintained to forestall the imminent threat of, or to stop, a serious decline in a country's monetary reserves. Section B of Article XVIII as now drafted begins with the recognition that under-developed countries may experience balance of payments difficulties arising mainly from efforts to expand their internal

markets as well as from the instabi lity in their terms of trdae. Therefore, such countries in order to safeguard their external financial position and to ensure a level of reserves adequate for the implementation of their programme of economic development may control the general level of their imports by restricting the quantity or value of merchandise permitted to be imported. These restrictions should be such as are necessary to forestall the threat of—and not the imminent threat as is the case with under-developed countries—a serious decline in the countries' monetary reserves or if the reserves are inadequate to achieve a reasonable rate of increase in these reserves. In applying these restrictions it is also provided that the country may determine their incidence on imports of different products in such a way as to give priority to the importation of those products which are more essential in the light of its policy of economic development.

In order to ensure that these facilities are not abused, each country will have consultations with the other countries belonging to the GATT at periodic intervals. In the case of developed countries, these consultation will, after a date to be fixed, be held annually, while for the under-developed countries these consultations will be held at intervals of not less than two years. The consultations will not call into question the development policy pursued by the country and will proceed with due regard to the main purpose of facilitating development for which Article XVIII has been designed.

Section C of Article XVIII deals with measures other than tariffs which may be necessary to promote the establishment of a particular industry. It authorises the use of quantative restrictions and other similar measures for this purpose even when a country is not in balance of payments difficulties. I would like the honourable House to note this particular point. In imposing these measures, the country concerned will be expected to reach agreement with other countries interested in that particular trade, but in the last analysis it would be free to act unilaterally unless it is an item on which the tariff is bound.

I have dealt with Articles XVIII in some detail, even to the extent of not being interesting to hon. Members. (*Some Hon. Members*: No, no.). I have also made a passing reference to Article XXVIII because their provisions are of such great interest to under-developed countries. Even apart from these, there are other provisions of the GATT open to all countries which do ensure that GATT obligations do not at any time have the effect of tying a country's hands when speedy action is absolutely vital. I am referring now to Article XIX which provides for emergency action on imports of particular products. Under this Article if as a result of unforeseen developments and of the effect of the obligations incurred under the GATT, including tariff concessions, any product is being imported in such increased quantities and under such conditions as to cause or threaten serious injury to demestic producers, the country concerned shall be free, to the extent and for such time as may be necessary to prevent or remedy such injury, to suspend the obligation in whole or in part or to withdraw or modify the concession.

I might say if it will interest the House that during these seven years no country barring one has used this particular concession. And it happens that the country that has used it is the most developed country in the world, that is the United States. And it used it four times.

I think I have said enough to show that our comitments under the GATT do not tie our hands too rigidly and regardless of consequences. Indeed, the question may well be asked as to what remains of the GATT if so many exceptions have been provided for. Our commitments may look as liabilities to us, but it is the same commitments undertaken by other countries which constitute our assets. Therefore, this

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thought may well occur as to whether there are so many exceptions as to make the rules themselves meaningless.

To this I would like to give two answers. Firstly, I would point out that the exceptions which have been made in favour of the under-developed countries are really intended to remove the special handicaps from which those countries suffer. After all, international trade which the GATT seeks to promote is not an end in itself, but a means to greater prosperity of the world. Therefore, when restrictions are necessary in the interests of economic development and raising the standard of living, the mere fact that they would for the time being restrict the volume of international trade is not much of an argument against them. If the standard of living of countries like India is raised, I am sure we shall be importing very much more than we would do even under conditions of free trade.

The second point to be borne in mind in any study of the GATT is that it is not a piece of legislation to be enforced by an independent judiciary which can only look at the wording of the Articles and not go behind them. It is an instrument to be used by those who have framed it—luckily we are in a better position here than in the matter of the Constitution that some of us helped to forge—for the purposes and objectives which they share in common. The GATT has been ready to recognise that occasionally a country may have overwhelming reasons to depart from its commitments. It has provided for such situations not only in the wording of its Articles but also in the procedure for the grant of waivers. But what really gives the organisation strength is not the sanctions which are provided in the Articles but the opportunity for exchange of ideas or, to use the technical phrase of the GATT Articles, the opportunity for consultation. Every year at the annual session of the GATT quite a number of complaints are brought before it. The vast majority of them have been settled by promoting an agreement between the countries concerned, rather than by giving a finding as to which country is in the wrong. Hon. Members of this House are perhaps aware that we ourselves had to go the GATT in relation to a complaint against a neighbouring country. And the GATT gave no decision but helped in solving the difficulties which, luckily, were solved. Such an approach is indeed essential for an agreement of this kind. International trade after all is not a static affair. The conditons of the countries within the GATT can be changing, and unless there is flexibility in the agreemen it would undoubtedly fall to pieces under the stresses and strains which inevitably arise in the vast field of international commerce.

It is therefore fortunate, I think, that the organisation which it is proposed should administer the GATT is going to be called the Organisation for Trade Co-operation. It is the element of co-operation rather than the element of compulsion which must predominate in the GATT if it is to be a success.

The point for consideration before us is whether or not we should ratify the amendments that have been formulated and join the Organisation for Trade Co-operation which has been proposed. As I have said, in formulating these amendments the Indian Delegation, according to the brief which the Government gave it, has played a major part, and I understand that none of the amendments which are now for acceptance by the Government is such that the Indian Delegation could not vote for it at the Review Session. The Organisation for Trade Co-operation also seems to us to be a welcome idea and provided it receives the support of the necessary number of countries, without which it may not come into being, it is our intention to join it.

Hon. Members who have been following the discussions at the GATT

meeting might raise the query: What is to be the position of the International Monetary Fund *vis-avis* the GATT in the new set-up? I am sorry my hon. friend Shri Asoka Mehta is not here, because he asked me an indentical question the other day. While the need for a closer link was stressed at the last meeting in Geneva none of the sponsors of the idea gave any precise indications of the nature of the new link envisaged. Recently we have heard of the United Kingdom Chancellor of the Exchequer supporting the idea in no undertain terms. Perhaps he was, in stressing on the need for a closer link between the two bodies, drawing on his own experience of the functioning of the Organisation for European Economic Co-operation. So long as the organisational structure of the GATT is based on co-operation, the link between this organisation and the International Monetary Fund cannot carry any more sanctions than what the proposed Organisation for Trade Co-operation will possess. The International Monetary Fund is an intergovernmental organisation having jurisdiction over exchange restrictions. Even according to the present Articles of the GATT a certain relationship is envisaged. Article XV-4 lays down that 'contracting parties shall not by exchange action frustrate the intent of the provisions of this Agreement nor by trade action frustrate the intent of the provisions of the Articles of Agreement of the International Monetary Fund.' The same Article in paragraph 2 lays down the precise method for consultation with the International Monetary Fund. It must, however, be noted that the powers of the International Monetary Fund to get non-discriminatory restrictions removed have been held in abeyance as Article XIV gave members freedom of action during the period of post-War transition, which period has not yet been terminated.

The idea, therefore, of a joint control by the International Monetary Fund and the proposed Organisation for Trade Co-operation bristles with difficulties. The provisions of the revised Article XVIII of the GATT afford a large measure of freedom of action for under-developed countries. Such countries cannot, therefore, agree to alter the co-operative character of the GATT to be compulsive controls to be exercised by the International Monetary Fund if there should be a joint control by the Organisation for Trade Co-operation and the International Monetary Fund. Nor can under-developed countries ignore the fact of the heavily weighted vote in the International Monetary Fund to one country which has its special interests to get rid of quantitative restrictions. The under-developed countries have been able to gain their point in the last Session of the GATT to provide a flexible code in regard to trade practices so as to enable them to develop. It is unlikely that they would surrender this advantage by agreeing to a closer and stricter supervision by the International Monetary Fund over which organisation developed countries have a large measure of control. It is, however, premature to discuss this question just yet.

The revised GATT is not by any means a perfect instrument. No international agreement ever is. Inevitably it is a compromise between the interests and interests and between ideals and realities. All that I would say is that the revised agreement will be a better one than the previously existing one and Government, therefore, propose to accept the amendments which have been formulated.

Sir, I should be failing in my duty which I should discharge if I do not, on this occasion, ask for the permission of the House to pay a compliment, which is highly deserved, to the Indian Delegation which represented us in Geneva, to the members thereof and also for the position that they obtained as leaders of the under-developed countries without any lobbying, without bringing any pressure to bear, to being recognised as leaders of all these backward countries. And, as I said before, it is a matter of gratification to me and the Government that in the

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responsibility that they voluntarily undertook they have not failed friends who put their trust in them.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the White Paper on the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade be taken into consideration."

Shri V. B. Gandhi (Bombay City—North): I am not moving the first; I move the second.

I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be subsituted:

"This House having considered the White Paper on the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, approves of the revised Agreement and the policy followed by the Government in relation thereto."

Shri K. K. Basu (Diamond Harbour): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the White Paper on the General Agreement on Tariffs and trade, is of opinion that the agreemnt as modified is also not in the interest of the economic development of the country and therefore resolves that further modifications of several Articles such as on 'Binding Rate of Duty', 'State Trading' etc. have to be made if an effective international organisation has to be created in the best interest of all countries including the under-developed ones."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Amendments moved:

That for the original motion, the following be subsituted:

"This House having considered the White Paper on the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, approves of the revised Agreement and the policy followed by the Government in relation thereto."

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the White Paper on the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, is of opinion that the agreemnt as modified is also not in the interest of the economic development of the country and therefore resolves that further modifications of several Articles such as on 'Binding Rate of Duty', 'State Trading' etc. have to be made if an effective international organisation has to be created in the best interest of all countries including the under-developed ones."

Shri G. D. Somani (Nagpur-Pali): We have just now heard a lucid exposition from the hon. Minister....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: With respect to the time-limit for speeches, hon. Members who are spokesmen of their respective Groups will have 20 minutes each and the other hon. Members will have 15 minutes.

Shri G. D. Somani: We have just now heard a lucid exposition about our country's position under this General Agreement on Tariffs and Trades and I would, at the outset, like to associate myself with the tribute that the hon. Minister had paid to our Indian delegation, who had conducted these difficult negotiations. It is really a matter of gratification to learn that the other under-developed countries looked to our delegation for guidance and primarily left these complicated problems to be solved under the advice and leadership of our delegation.

Coming to the main question, I should like to say that GATT is the first multilateral and comprehensive agreement of its kind which covers in some detail virtually every subject concerning the field of commercial relations. I understand that its present membership comprises 35 countries which includes also Japan and that the contracting parties jointly account for about 75 to 80 per cent of total world trade. The basic philosophy of the GATT is the creation of a system

of free and non-discriminatory world trade in which quotas and other quantitative restrictions are prohibited except in defind circumstances. I gather that the objectives as laid down in Article I postulate that relations in the field of economic endeavour should be conducted with a view to raising the standards of living, ensuring full employment and a large steadily growing volume of real income and affective demand, developing the full use of the resources of the world and expanding the production and exchange of goods and promoting the progressive development of the economics of all the contracting parties. These objectives are sought to be achieved by the following:

(i) entering into a reciprocal and mutually advantageous arrangement directed to the substantial reduction of tariffs and other barriers to trade, and

(ii) elimination of discriminatory treatment in international commerce.

Broadly speaking, the question of eliminating discrimination in all kinds of international trade and providing for a code of fair trading rules has had wide appeal and has been welcomed by the business community as a whole. The business community are in agreement with the Government's policy adopted in relation to this general Agreement. It is in regard to continued obligations of keeping tariff levels at a low rate in respect of bound items and in the use of quantitative restrictions for protective purposes that there has been some argument as to how these restrictions might come in the way of the growth and development of some of our infant industries. But, as the hon. Minister just now pointed out, I am glad to learn that the Government have seen their way, either under the provisions regarding the difficulties of balance of trade or under other provisions to ensure that these restrictions will not come in the way of developing our new industries and that the necessary protection will be available to our industrial sector irrespective of the restrictions that have been placed upon our Government under this agreement.

As regards the advantages that flow from the GATT, if we ever think of withdrawing from the membership of the GATT, then naturally our export trade like jute, cotton textiles and tea might suffer. These advantages need not be enumerated in great detail, and in some cases such as hessian, the concessions secured have been positively helpful in discouraging the use of substitutes in foreign countries. In the case of cotton textiles, the reduction in the preferential margin by Australia has been helpful to us in stimulating our exports to that market. Indeed about 50 per cent of India's export trade to GATT countries, excluding U.K. and South Africa, is covered by concessions received by India. The export of items on which direct and indirect concessions have been received amount to about 25 per cent. of our total exports.

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA *in the Chair*]

In the case of certain items like black pepper, mica, lac, cashew-nuts, coir yarn, hessian, manganese ore, chrome ore, a major portion of our exports is to GATT countries.

Obviously, these advantages impose correspondingly obligations on us including those relating to tariff bindings by India on goods imported and certain restrictions regarding the use of quantitative restrictions, and these two matters were prominently referred to in the speech by the Indian delegation at the 9th Session of the GATT. The tariff bindings—either by way of reduction of import duty, binding of duty free treatment or reduction in preferential margin—precluded us from increasing the customs duties in respect of bound items which number about 150 or so. Similarly, the provisions relating to quantitative restrictions may be said to have interfered with the development of industries in India. In theory both these obligations are demonstrably not in our interest as a country wishing to industrialise itself by all possible means. But in the past, mainly be-

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cause of balance of payments difficulties, under the escape clauses we could always use quantitative restrictions without infringing any of the provisions of the GATT. The Government spokesmen never openly conceded that quantitative restrictions could be used for protective purposes and they always ensured that quantitative restrictions would give us necessary protection. Even the Fiscal Commission recommended that quantitative restrictions should be used sparingly. The Import Control Enquiry Committee went somewhat further when it recommended that as long as the balance of payments difficulties exist, the import policy of Government should be so framed and administered as to safeguard the balance of payments position with the regard to output, quality and the price of indigenous products. In fact, this is put more succinctly in the summary of the findings of that Committee's Report. There is thus a better realisation today about the need for using quantitative restrictions in specified cases such as in the case of capital goods and raw materials and for items in which there is a strong consumer preference or prejudice and where the items are components of an end product which is costly and durable, the components themselves being low in cost such as ball bearings, hinges, wood screws, etc. These may be described as import vulnerable industries. In view of the manifold development of industries in future years, India cannot give up the use of quantitative restrictions, nor would it be correct to argue that qualitative restrictions tend to build up an unsound base for industrialisation.

Let us now see whether at the Review Session the revision in the provisions of the GATT satisfies our requirements or not in regard to the use of quantitative restrictions, particularly in the light of the items wherever our tariff rates are bound. In this conection it can be categorically stated that due to the sustained efforts of representatives of the underdeveloped countries in which the Indian delegation played a very prominent role the revision in the provisions of the GATT represents an extremely good compromise which at once imparts greater flexibility without weakening the basic structure or the philosophy of the GATT. Attention may be confined to the revision in article XVIII of the GATT entitled 'Governmental assistance to economic development'. These changes have been described in pages 6-7 of the Review of the GATT published by the Commerce Ministry. Countries like India will be covered by this article in which the balance of payments provisions have been relaxed. The reserve test, if modified so as to promote restrictions when monetary reserves are inadequate in relation to development plans whereas other developed countries do so only when reserves are very low. The periodic revision contemplated in the revised articles XII and XIV for countries applying quantitative restrictions for balance of payment reasons is also less frequent in the case of under-developed countries. I, therefore feel that so far as our industrial development is concerned, we need not in any way be worried about the measures that our Government may have to take to ensure the necessary protection.

From the point of view of India, what is important, therefore, is the possible limitation of our ability to use quantitative restrictions in the case of commodities bound under the Agreement. It must be said that this is quite a hypothetical question for, as has already been stated, we are likely to have balance of payments difficulties in which case we need not have any worry. It is admitted on all hands that some of the concessions given by us are not demonstrably in the interest of the development of the indigenous industry, and without recourse to quantitative restrictions certain industries on which we have bound our rates of duties are sure to suffer. This leads us to a consideration of the question as to whether we should consider seeking releases in respect of some of our commitments

and also to examine as to whether the procedure for seeking such release is satisfactory or not. It is only this part of the GATT, which, it must be said, is not quite satisfactory from our point of view, but one has to compromise on certain issues, and, therefore, on the whole I have nothing to complain so far as the Agreement is concerned.

I would like to make a reference to the releases already sought by us and which were announced by a Press Note dated the 24th July 1954. The four items in respect of which a limited release has already been sought and given effect to are coaltar dyes, razor blades, glass beads and false pearls. In seeking this release, India has reduced duty on the following items: certain plastic raw materials and certain raw materials used in the manufacture of small tools including high speed alloys and special alloy steel. India also agreed to bind import duties on antibiotics, electric hearing aids, tyres with metallic framework and milk foods for infants and invalids. These concessions given are very substantial and indicate the nature of the difficulty in seeking release. It may be enquired as to whether Government hope to be in a position to seek release in respect of other items without offering substantial concessions on other items.

The only other important problem to which I should like to refer is about the implications of Japan's membership of the GATT. Japan has been admitted into the GATT with effect from the 11th August. Countries which do not want to extend the concessions to Japan can do so under articles XXXV, and it would seem that the U.K. and Australia will take recourse to this article. India already applies this article to South Africa. It may be enquired as to what is Government's attitude about the membership of Japan, particularly in the light of the fact that contrary to what was expected before India did not enter into any tariff negotiations with Japan and thus sought to reserve its position. Only 18 of the GATT's 34 members took part in the tariff negotiations. The basic point about the effect of Japan's membership of the GATT is to see whether Japan would royally agree to the rules of fair trading laid down in the GATT. One of their doubtful trade practices includes the element of concealed export subsidies.

I hope, therefore, that the hon. Minister would enlighten us on the implications of Japan's membership of GATT and will give us the necessary assurance; so far as Japan is concerned our Government should remain very vigilant and watchful so that we may not suffer.

Shri K. K. Basu: I have moved an amendment to this particular motion. The hon. Minister in his long speech explained the stand of the Government. In the amendment it is clearly stated that we are not as a rule or on principle opposed to any type of international co-operation. What we feel is this. International co-operation must be based on the theory that it promotes trade among the countries participating and it is not just the liberalisation which would affect adversely under-developed economies like the one of our country. The Minister has stated that they had some experience and on the basis of that he had tried to give some concession. In this connection, I would like to emphasise that our aim should be to see that this sort of international co-operation does not in any way prevent rapid industrialisation of the country. With your permission, I may quote a few words of Prof. K. T. Shah in the great easay he wrote while serving on the National Planning Committee. He said in 1940:

> "The emphasis in the proposals equal access to markets and raw materials has hardly any relevance to the needs of a country like India which wants in the main freedom to make the fullest use of her resources without having to make sacrifices in the interest of more powerful countries."

I personally feel that this policy should guide us if we continue our association with such international organi-

[Shri K. K. Basu]

sations. We should have this particular emphasis. If we see the way in which GATT has so long been working we shudder. Unless some more concessions are received we do not know whether it will be in our interest to continue our association with GATT on the existing terms or even slightly modified terms. The hon. Minister himself said—and we also know—that the United States promised to liberalise the import policies of that country. But nothing has been done as yet. We were told on an earlier occasion that we had got certain tariff concessions and certain figures were given. But what are those articles? Examples have been given of jute, tea or mica. So far as jute, tea, etc. are concerned, we are a monopoly or semi-monopoly country and naturally we are in an advantageous position so far as our export markets are concerned. But in the case of mica, we have seen the extent to which prices had fluctuated according to the conditions in the international markets. We are told that the GATT had benefited us and that we should see our balance of payments position. It is not because countries like the UK or USA wanted to help us or liberalise their import policies but it was due to other causes like stock-piling and it is also because of the fact that their industries needed those things.

Therefore, what I emphasise is this. Our attitude should be to see that what extent this would help in the industrialisation of our country. So long we have seen that organisations like the GATT are more or less being dominated by USA, UK and they get more than 50 per cent of the benefits.

In the brochure that has been circulated to us we are told about the sterling balances. How did we utilise the sterling balances? Did we utilise the sterling balances for the economic development of our country? No; we have failed. It was precisely because the countries which were in a position to supply us with the machinery and the implements that we needed did not help us because of the fact that they thought that it would go counter to their economic interests. They tried to utilise the advantages of such international organisations to see that their industry is not in any way jeoopardised.

The Minister said that this was brought before the Government and it had the sanction of the Parliament. Negotiations began before the Congress came to power and I do not know whether all the aspects of the problem of our co-operation in the GATT were considered. You will find from the earlier literature that even the Indian businessmen opposed our continuation in this GATT because it was counter to the industrial development of our country but our Government had to cotinue—I do not know—perhaps under the pressure of the UK Government or whoever it was. But the Minister says that there was a discussion in the Parliament and that it was supported by the opinion of the Parliament and so they entered into the GATT agreement. I believe it came before the Parliament immediately after the transfer of power. Perhaps they did not properly visualise or did not take into consideration all the aspects of the industrialisation of our country and our economic interests. When there was large scale opposition regarding our continuance, our Government did not take up the matter and fight for certain modifications. Possibly under great pressure, only last year we had some concessions. We are told that we are benefited by this concession. We have not been given any figure as to how we would have suffered had this not been there. Figures have been given for jute and it has been said that we have been benefited. in jute and in some other things. But apart from textile products, there is no manufactured produce of any great proportion which we export. Even today we export either raw materials or primary products. In certain cases figures have been given in the book—*Foreign Trade and Navigation of India*. According to that the prices in 1953 in the international market were higher than 1955. Cashew kernels sold at Rs. 214 per cwt. in 1953 whereas in 1955 the price was reduced to Rs. 156. If you take coal the price came down

from Rs. 36 per ton in 1953 to Rs. 32 in 1955. In mica it was Rs. 491 per cwt. in 1953 but Rs. 216 in 1955. In the case of iron ore the prices are Rs. 46 and 43 respectively. In the case of iron and steel the prices are Rs. 223 and Rs 123 per ton respectively. In the case of manganese ore, only a few months back we had a good deal of discussion. A large number of mines had to be closed down and they suffered in Madhya Pradesh and some other parts also. There also we find the prices had come down to Rs. 95 from Rs. 158 per ton in 1953. From he figures supplied I find that the price of certain cotton piecegoods had gone down from Rs. 0—10—8 per yard in 1953 to Rs. 0—10—1 in 1955 and in certain other types from Re. 1—0—0 to Rs. 0—14—0. In jute also there is a reduction from Rs. 1—3—0 to Rs. 1—2—0 per bag.

On the whole my point is this. Even in the export market, we cannot say that we get some advantages by our continuation in this organisation. We have certain goods in which we are having monopolies or semi-monopolies. We cannot get possibly the same advantages. This organisation has been so long completely dominated by the Americans and the Britishers and possibly other developed countries. It did not materially affect the industrialisation of the under-developed countries and more particularly our own country, India. Immediately after the war, we know that the USA on the basis of mutuality and freedom of trade set up some international organisations such as the IMF, GATT. In certain cases they had certain special forms like the Marshall Aid, Schuman Act, etc. so far as Europe was concerned. But, what was that? You cannot have this type of freedom between a very developed giant and dwarf. Our problems are completely different. Certainly, I am for international co-operation, as I said earlier, where every country must look to the mutual benefit and where this is sincerely and thoroughly worked upon by a developed country in its relation to an under-devloped country to see that the under-developed country is not adversely affected and her industries are also allowed to develop. Here I find that because of the association of GATT this condition has not been fulfilled and, possibly,—I am not sure,— the figures that have been given to show that we have been benefited because of our association with GATT are not fully correct.

Another most important point—I personally feel and on which the Government differs—is that because of our association with GATT we had to lay down our trade with Canada, U.K., USA, and other developed countries and we could not diversify our trade with other countries which are outside the GATT and which possibly, is to the interest of the country. I personally feel that our main criterion in the matter of selecting countries to trade with should be to see that our industry develops and our economic development grows at a faster speed. It does not matter which country—whether socialist country, capitalist country, GATT country or non-GATT country—we are to deal with. In this way, I want almost to keep my hands open to see that in the best interests of the economic development of our country, we must have trade relations with all countries that we possibly can have. In this connection the Minister has given a reference and he has referred to the statement of the British Chancellor of Exchequer that the IMF and GATT should have more co-operation. As far as this is concerned, because we thought that through the easy convertibility of currency we could utilise our sterling balance for our economic development, we thought of continuing our association. To that extent we failed and we did not get what we wanted. It has worked more or less to the interests of America and other highly developed countries. In this connection, if I am permitted, I would like to quote from the speech of the President of the World Bank, which was published in the journal *Commerce* a few months back and which is very pertinent and relevant to the point. He says:

> "Last year I said that merely to refrain from reversing the downward trend in U. S. import tariffs

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over the past two decades would not be enough to put international trade on an even keel and there was need for a further reduction in the obstacle to imports. I share the disappointment of many of you that the administration did not find it possible to put into effect this year the trade liberalisation feature of its foreign economic policies."

We know, even the report of the Randall Commission which suggested liberalisation of import policy, so, far as America is concerned, they did not accept. We also know that in America there are provisions—many representations and questions have been made regarding them—regarding price support on agricultural goods and they have deliberately tried to see that even agricultural products of other countries which were cheaper have been allowed to operate on a different from of subsidy. I am told—I have read in papers and I think I am right—that in America Canada and these highly developed countries they have some sort of what is known as "credit subsidy". They have some institution to subsidise the imports either by giving credit or some other methods. This goes counter to the very priniciple of the GATT for which this country originally, possibly thought it would help.

In recent times we saw in America a rise in the rate of tariff on bicycles because they are facing competition from European countries and so was the case in the Dutch Chees. Similar was the case with Swiss Watches, because these countries were supposed to be in an advantageous position and competing adversely against the American products. The manner in which they behave shows that they do not want real promotion of trade and that they want liberalisation for their own benefit and to widen their market. Therefore, taking into consideration the way GATT has behaved so far and the manner in which the Government has acted up to the criticism that was made by particular sections of the people of the country, I do not know why Government has come forward today to justify its association with this organisation.

As I said, these things happened in America, but in the new Agreement there have been certain concessions which is, relatively speaking, better than what was there before. The most important thing, I personally feel, in this international co-operation is that we must realise to what extent the real mutual interest of both the countries are involved. There is no question of having free trade because you cannot have freedom between countries which are highly developed economically and countries which are underdeveloped. Our problems are different and, in many ways, not as that of others In this connection the Minister himself said that even a country like America had to take recourse only thrice or four times—I do not remember—to article XIX, the special provision regarding coming out of the application of GATT. Therefore, we feel that so far as these highly developed countries are concerned high import tariffs and credit subsidies on agricultural products continue whereas we are told that we have got some benefit. What benefit? Our raw materials are sold because they need them either for stock-poling or for their industrial requirements and at the same time so far as the prices relatively are concerned we have lost per unit. There is no point in saying that in a particular year we had a favourable balance of payment. The entire sterling balance was utilised—though 30 lakhs of Bengal people had to die in order to make this great accumulation during the last war—and released, not to the benefit of India, but either to give some pensions which were not justifiable or to some other things. The whole thing had been allowed to fritter away because the country which held the balance of payment was not in a position to supply us with the materials according to our requirements. In this connection, the other day I was reading a journal and therein it categorically says that America through the Mutual Security. Appropriation Bill is not going to allow

the export of such materials to a country which is under-developed so that by establishment of industries it might not at a later period compete with industrial products of America. This is the attitude of two or three of the main countries which dominate the GATT.

Britain in the last session has demanded a certain waiver clause along with its dependencies—such as Africa, Malaya and other colonies. We know very well about the British exploitation because we had a very long association with them and Britain, I believe, has a special relationship with those colonies. She wants a waiver clause and some sort of imperial type of tariff between those countries which, to some extent, cuts at the very basis of the priniciple under which the GATT has been developed. Then I am told that in United States of America also she has demanded, so far as agricultural products are concerned, some sort of subsidies and all these things. As I said earlier, from the manner in which the United States of America and all these countries behave I am not sure to what extent the international co-operation will be to the benefit of the under-developed countries including India.

I have moved an amendment which clearly gives some of the points which I want to emphasise. One of the points I would like to stress is about the Binding Rates. My friend Shri G. D. Somani, who has just gone out, has raised some difficulties which he as a man connected with industry feels. I also feel personally that we must have a certain flexibility, because even with the GATT countries we may have to carry out agreements—say, with a country like France—and we may want certain types of goods for a long period for development of a particular industry in our country. For that I personally feel that it may be necessary to have certain differential rates which may go counter to the mutuality clause of the GATT. I do not know, I am not an expert on these things but from whatever I could gather from my study of the subject I am not sure whether that is open to us and when we are going to have so many Plans to see that our economic condition improves, this is absolutely necessary. Therefore, I personally feel that we must have this flexibility regarding Binding Rates. I do not say that the members of the international organisation want to have their own way without taking into consideration the basic things. What I would suggest is that if India feels that with a particular country—whether a member of the GATT or not—and in certain particular items it should have preferential treatment which will be very helpful to the industrial development of the country, India should have the right to alter the position and that amount of flexibility should be there so far as the Binding Rates are concerned. I know it has been referred to by Shri G. D. Somani that with regard to certain materials like cotton, dyes, tooth pastes, shaving sets, Htho phone—I do not know what it is—and others we have not got the release we demanded. We demanded release because it is to our interest as it affects certain of our industries or in the overall economic development of the country it is not to our benefit to continue with these Binding Rates. Therefore, I want that so far as the binding of rates is concerned, there must be some flexibility.

Then there is the question of quantitative restrictions. I am of the opinion that apart from the basic principle of the balance of payment, or rather, on the ground of the balance of payment there should not be an invokation of the clause on the quantitative restriction for this purpose. For instance, in the course of expansion of industries, India may have special agreements with certain countries for the import of machinery but this may offset the clause in question. I feel there are tremendous potentialities for the development of my country. I must have a right to say that not only by raising the tariffs, by having high tariffs,—which may offend the interests of the country—but by other methods also,

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the country should not suffer. But quantitative restrictions may be of help to the development of our industry and especially so in certain sectors of the industry. Therefore, I feel that we should have a greater right in this regard. But I am not sure whether, apart from the question of balance of payment, we can invoke the clause on quantitative restrictions.

Then, I come to State trading. As you know, we recognise that the foreign trade of our country should be the monopoly of the Government. I know also fully well that for the present, the Government is not in a position to accept that idea. Today, we have some agreements with non-GATT countries, some socialist countries, in regard to our foreign trade. So long as we have such agreements, it may be necesary for us to have State trading in a particular item. But I am not sure whether that is permitted under the present articles of the GATT. Apart from my own doubt in this matter, my idea is further supported by an article in the *Eastern Economist* which says:

> "Being a member of the GATT, it should be remembered India is under an obligation to accord most-favoured nation treatment to various countries and the adoption of State trading with respect to foreign trade with a few countries cannot but conflict with this obligation".

This is what I want to avoid. I want to have State trading with the Soviets or with any other country and specially socialist country. It may be in respect of certain items which can also be found in the GATT countries. We want to have State trading with those countries which have nationalised their trade and it may be necesary that when private enterprise is not in a position to make a contract, it may have subsidiary organisations. But if I am debarred from getting into this contract, I am certainly opposed to the continuance of the particular clause under the GATT agreement. The State is vitally affected in these matters, especially in a planned economy. Its economy may be varying. In the first year, it may be one thing and in the second year it may be different. In course of time, we must, however, see that the Government is not committed to a policy in regard to certain items which it may be necessary for us to obtain. State trading is in the interests of the country and its people. Therefore, we must have the right to go in for that. Therefore, I have moved my amendment which says that modifications have to be effected in regard to State trading if we want an effective international organisation in this regard.

Lastly, I come to diversification, by which I mean that our trade should be elastic and not dependent on any one agreement or with particular group of nations. We must have trade with the socialist countries and it should be in the best interests of our own country. My criterion for saying it is this: you have accepted certain plans. You say it is a welfare State. Then, the Constitution enjoins on the people to see that the economic condition of the people is improved and the industries developed, in the interests of the country as a whole. So, it is necessary for us to work with countries which are friendly to us, though such countries might belong to a school of thought which is different from ours. We must have economic independence, but so long as the present position is concerned, so long as certain articles under the GATT are applicable to us, to that extent we shall be under the continuing influence of those countries which are dominated by imperialist motives, such as America. I want real freedom. You know political freedom will have no meaning when you do not have economic freedom. Therefore, I urge that it is the duty of the Parliament to see that this priniciple of economic freedom is accepted. I personally feel that we must make an effort to have diversification which will give us economic independence.

As I have said, I have raised some doubts about the State trading and that doubt remains in the minds of some others also. I cannot fully support the stand taken by the Government regarding the continuance of their association with the GATT under the circumstances.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy (Mysore): I carefully listened to the speech made by the hon. Minister of Commerce and Industry. I generally endorse the steps that were taken by our delegation in the conference which met in November, 1954, at Geneva. While generally endorsing the steps taken by the delegation, I must make certain observations which do not completely agree with certain decisions taken in that conference. I am aware that India was one of the countries among the different countries which participated in that conference, and, as in all conferences, it is the will of the majority or the concensus of the majority that would always ultimately prevail. I am also aware of the fact that in such international conferences, only compromise and mutual give and take should and would always influence the proceedings. In spite of that, I feel that in certain matters, the Indian delegation should have given more careful thought and should have exercised their mind better.

During the pre-war days, the nations of the world were accustomed to live in a vicious circle where trade was hampered by want of security and security was hampered due to recessions and trade depressions; the world was always confronted with a dilemma, the dilemma of the systems of closed economy. This has led in the past to economic nationalism, tariff war, and trade conflict and naturally the nations felt that this should be stopped and the economic affairs of a country should be raised to the level of international understanding. We are entirely in agreement with the Government that hereafter we should not pursue the policies of a narrow economic nationalism. While doing so, we must bear in mind that we should not be blind to the fundamental interests of our own nation and our people.

The Conference was remarkable in that all the delegations which participated in the Conference expressed their desire to have GATT. All the representatives who participated in the Conference unanimously decided that GATT should be continued, should be strengthened and, if possible, should be reconstructed and rationalised. So far as the policy of my party is concerned, we are in favour of GATT. We are prepared to participate in the GATT because we feel that GATT at least provides an international forum for trading nations working under dissimilar economies. I do not agree with Shri Basu who took rather a very unhelpful view....

Shri K. K. Basu: I do not say that you should withdraw.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: You did not say that but you said that the interests of the nation should be paramount and those of others should not count much. I can underdstand the feelings and sentiments of my friend; but in international dealings, it would be very dangerous to have recourse to unilateral action. When we deal with other countries, we have to deal on the basis of mutual give and take, and as I said, on the basis of compromise, of course, without sacrificing the fundamental interests of the country. So, I have no quarrel with my friends opposite, so far as our membership of GATT is concerned. But I wish to say something on some of the decisions which might militate against our interests.

The hon. Commerce and Industry Minister dealt at great length with tariffs and quantitative restrictions. These two coloured or dominated the proceedings of the conference. They were no doubt important and were considered in all aspects. There was another aspect which was also considered and which was referred to by some of the delegations and that was the problem of export subsidies. It was very good that the agreement was

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revised to the advantage of the under-developed or semi-developed countries. Hereafter we would have move elbow-room to negotiate with contracting parties for revision of tariff or modification or change of tariff. Also, it is good that the conference has adopted that quantitative restrictions may be imposed by countries in certain emergencies and also under specific circumstances. While we have this power, when our country has to impose quantitative restrictions or prescribe quotas, then, I think under the agreement, we have to consult the GATT organisation. Without consulting the GATT organisation, we are not allowed or, we are not free, to enter into negotiation with other countries and we cannot alter tariffs or make changes in quantitative restrictions. There is another aspect to this question. Suppose India alters tariffs or imposes excessive import restrictions. Then the alternative for other contracting parties would be retaliation. Of course, in the beginning there would be negotiation; and if negotiation fails, ultimately the other contracting parties may take to reprisal or retaliation. If that is allowed under the existing agreement, I cannot see what fruitful role GATT would play in resolving the differences. If retaliatory steps could be taken and if reprisals could be adopted, then what is the purpose that GATT would serve? The main purpose of this organisation is to prescribe a code of commercial conduct, to eliminate obstacles or barriers in the way of free flow of goods and to evolve a healthier pattern of international trade. If power is given to the contracting parties to retaliate, then I am afraid that it may, in the long run, go against the interests of the under-developed countries. Of course, I am not prepared to sacrifice the freedom of my country for the sake of achieving a doubtful advantage. But I think that this particular aspect will act as a boomerang. In the long run, I feel that the resort to retaliatory steps by contracting parties may lead not only to misunderstanding, but also to more complications. I do not know whether sufficient thought was given to this aspect of the question.

As regards the third aspect which I pointed out, namely, export subsidies, it was not elaborated much by my hon. friend Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari. This is a very important thing, if one knows the implications of it. According to the decisions, I gather, export subsidies can continue hereafter. A view was expressed that excessive trade restrictions may disrupt, dislocate or distort international trade. If excessive trade restrictions would distort or dislocate trade, then would not export subsidies also distort or dislocate trade? That is an important question. There is no doubt a proviso that if export subsidies are adopted, which may in the end bring to the country more than a fair share of world trade, then it should be dispensed with. Export subsidies were defended on the ground that it may promote world consumption, because the goods will be cheap. For instance, take a rich country like America. If it subsidise its goods, then the entire consuming class will be benefited. But, in the long run, these subsidies may prevent the under-developed economies from developing. I feel that Dr. Ganguly is correct when he said that this concession of export subsidies would assure in the end complete victory for the American farm block. Because, America today enjoys a surplus in agricultural products and it is very much interested in exporting these products to other countries. Suppose the international market is flooded with cheap American goods, what will happen to the exports of other countries? If dumping takes place in the guise of export subsidies, what action could the Government take? If they are now empowered to impose anti-dumping duties or countervailing duties, what is the purpose served in having the provision for export subsidies? This is a paradox. Any way, this would be mis-used by

the powerful countries. That is my fear.

4 P.M.

The hon. Minister mentioned about the administrative set-up of this organisation. He said that there will be an Organisation for Trade Co-operation which would be set up. But, unfortunately, this organisation is subject to the ratification of the U.S. Congress. The Government of the U.S.A. have no doubt signified their consent. But it is subject to ratification by the Congress. The criticism that I want to offer on this is that this international organisation would come into being only if the group of countries which hold 85 per cent. of the trade would assent to this. Only England and America, which control 85 per cent. of the trade, occupy this paramount position. If America and England agree, then this organisation will come into being: not otherwise. I cannot understand this. The G.A.T.T. is supposed to be an international organisation based upon voluntary co-operation, where all members are equal, irrespective of their position in the international trade or their share in the international market. If that is so, why this weightage? We have seen weightage in the U.N.O. and its ugly consequences. Veto has been given to the five big countries on the ground that they are big powers. Here also, there has been considerable weightage given. We may not call it veto; but it is virtually veto. They can veto the formation of this organisation. They may say that we need not have this organisation. Are we not aware of how the Havana Charter was torpedoed and sabotaged completely because the great nations of the world who subscribed to the main principles of that Charter did not want that Charter to be implemented. The main purpose of the G.A.T.T. is to fulfil the objectives of the Havana Charter. But we are far from realising those objectives. G.A.T.T. during these 6 or 7 years has not achieved much. If at all, it has achieved only one thing: that is, it has provided a forum for these nations of the world to meet and discuss things. Beyond that, it has not, I think, given any material advantage or benefits. So, I say that the G.A.T.T. suffers from the same weaknesses and from the same drawbacks as the U.N.O. It has given a tremendous amount of power to the two great countries. They can veto, they can say that we do not want a trade organisation.

Lastly, I say that hereafter we should exercise better watch and see whether the G.A.T.T. works in our favour. Up till now, the official figures show that it has done some good. But, unfortunately, the underdeveloped and semi-developed countries have not been benefited much. The G.A.T.T. has become a sort of a close preserve of a few great countries. In this context, I may say that unless the G.A.T.T. functions really and effectively, and if the contracting parties, especially the dominant industrial countries do not co-operate and do not assist the other countries to develop their own economies, to raise the standard of living of the masses, and to break the international cartels and monopolies which are the objectives of the Havana Charter, its continuation is meaningless. The objectives of the G.A.T.T. should be expanded and they should be progressively realised. The Havana Charter should be implemented gradually but speedily.

Dr. Krishnaswami (Kancheepuram): We are thankful to the hon. Minister for besides giving a stimulating account of the historical developments that have led to the General Agreement on Tariff and Trade, he has also furnished an exposition of the problems that face underdeveloped countries. I do not share the pessimism of my hon. friend from the Communist Party, regarding the value of the Agreement. If the G.A.T.T. is a restriction on our sovereignty, if it inhibits our freedom to take action, why enter into

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it at all, asks Shri K. K. Basu. To answer this question let us consider two facts. Firstly, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade has enlisted the co-operation of 35 countries. Secondly, these countries are responsible for 75 to 85 per cent. of the world's trade. Further more, our economic position is such that we have no monopoly in respect of any commodity. Even jute, which my hon. friend flourished before this House, is not a monopoly commodity. It is now subject to keen competition from Brazil and other countries. Besides we are on the threshold of a new industrial development. It is I take it the ambition and aspiration of all in this House to promote imports and exports, indispensable for earning foreign exchange and increasing our standard of living. We have started developing our manufacturing industries. Recently, we have started exporting more and more manufactured and semi-manufactured goods. Those who have given some thought to the trends of export trade in our country realise that we are likely to face keenest competition from those countries which are in the G.A.T.T. Had we not chosen to enter G.A.T.T., all that we would have done is to strengthen our rivals. I believe, therefore, that it is not necessary for me to deal at length with the argument whether we should have entered into the G.A.T.T. or not. Government did a sensible and wise thing in suggesting that we should enter into the G.A.T.T, I believe even those industrialists who, on previous occasions, were inclined to cavil at the idea of this country being a member of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade Organisation, are now in agreement with us on the ground that it not only benefits the country but their long run industrial interests as well.

What are the objectives of G.A.T.T.? My hon. friend pointed out that these objectives were enshrined in article 1. The objectives are to raise standards of living, to ensure full employment and a large and steadily growing volume of real income and effective demand, developing the full use of the resources of the world and expanding the production and exchange of goods, and promoting the progressive development of the economies of the contracting parties.

When we peruse however this General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, we wonder, whether it is not loaded with too many exceptions and saving clauses, whether these exceptions and saving clauses might not prevent the percolation of the spirit of GATT enshrined in the objective clause. It is indeed a harsh thought which occurs frequently to those who have studied the full agreement. The main articles on which there would be controversy are likely to be two, namely articles XVIII and article XVI. Article XVIII has been referred to by my hon. friend the Minister of Commerce and Industry, and I should like to consider it at some length because it is of crucial importance from the point of view of the economic policy that we are going to pursue.

We have been given in this article the enabling power to impose quantitative restrictions on those commodities to which we have not bound ourselves, for promoting economic development. Prior to this agreement we could impose quantitative restrictions solely for the purpose of safeguarding our balance of payments. A large volume of opinion represented by influential chambers of commerce and industry in our country considered this condition to be restrictive. They suggested that quantitative restrictions should be used for promoting economic development. Actually while quantitative restrictions were presumably imposed for the purpose of safeguarding our balance of payments, they were in reality protective in effect. Government may not have acknowledged this fact openly because that would have been a breach of the GATT, but

we know that in several instances there have been cases where these quantitative restrictions have acted as protective measures for enabling industries to operate at fairly full capacity. In fact, in 1953 when my hon. friend pursued a more liberal import policy and introduced the system of token imports for the first time into the scheme of imports, one of the factors which he took into account and which was mentioned in the press note released to the Press at that time was that even when import control was liberalised, import quotas for goods also manufactured in India would be generally limited to the estimated "unsatisfied demand", which in effect meant that protection to domestic producers was an important determinant of our import-policy. What is important, however, to realise is that in future we have been given the enabling power to protect without taking into account immediate balance of payments difficulties.

Now, I wish to ask two questions: Must we use this power with a consciouness of a newly obtained freedom, or must we take into account certain criteria and limitations? Must we take into account the consumer and the economy the interests of which may diverge from those of industrialists and traders?

In order to appreciate these issues we have to make a brief analysis of the factors which might probably enter into the judgment of the Commerce and Industry Ministry when it decides on quota restrictions. The Commerce and Industry Ministry, I take it, proceeds on the basis of a plan. I believe that the first consideration that weighs with it is the amount of foreign exchange that would be available to us during any particular period. Having estimated this amount, the foreign exchange would be apportioned for the purpose of importing essential goods—essential from the point of view of the development of the country. After this we would be left with a certain amount of foreign exchange for the purpose of importing less essential goods. It is here that a political choice is made as to the degree of protectionism that we want in our economy. It is on this matter that the major decisions of the Ministry will have to be made, how much of quantitative restrictions we will have and how far tariffs will be employed for protecting industries.

Generally speaking, I am in favour of tariffs being employed to protect our industries. For one thing they are levied on the recommendations of the Tariffs Commission. For an other they are levied for a stipulated period during which Government undertakes to furnish assistance. They do not promote the growth of a "closed shop" of importers. Free entry into the import trade is not prevented. Fluctuations in policy are better modulated and business is rendered more competitive. Besides, more important than all these considerations, is the fact that a tariff does not disrupt the market mechanism.

Writing on this matter, Haberler, an economist of repute, has pointed out that tariffs are preferable to import quotas and other restrictions. May I, with your permission, read a brief excerpt from the analysis that he has made?

> "Under the tariff system all these complications are absent. No allocation, no rationing is necessary; no big unearned profits are reaped by traders; the difference between the price in the exporting and in the importing country flows into the coffers of the national treasury and not into private pockets. The only tasks of the authorities is to collect the duty at the frontier. The competitive forces of the market, supply, demand and comparative cost conditions take care of the rest; they determine the sources of supply, and assure that imports come from the cheapest centres of production. All this is achieved with a

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minimum of interference, coercion and friction. That is the main reason why the tariff system may be called a 'liberal' method of commercial policy, conformable to a free competitive enterprise economy, while quotas are non-conformable measures which disrupt the market mechanism and lead necessarily to further interventions."

But, having accepted this line of reasoning, I should like to point out that there are cases in which the tariffs may not be the best weapon to employ in all circumstances. I believe it will be admitted that in the case of tariffs which regulate the inflow of goods, we have to depend on the internal demand to act as an effective check on what we consider to be over-utilisation of foreign exchange. It may happen that even high tariffs levied on goods do not preclude a greater amount of foreign exchange being dissipated due to consumers' demands increasing; in such cases it may be much more preferable to have quotas because quotas reduce the availabilities of commodities to the consumer.

Quite apart from this consideration, we have to realise that quotas may be essential to protect industries. It is on this matter that I should like to have a clear enunciation of the criteria from the Government that should necessarily govern the employment of this weapon. In certain cases a high rate of tariff need not necessarily be restrictive of imports. The general fallacy that is indulged in is that a high rate of tariff is always synonymous with being restrictive of imports. The height of a tariff and its restrictiveness are not synonymous at all. The height of a duty is an arithmetical conception. It refers to the relationship between the amount collected and the value of the commodity imported into the country. Restrictiveness refers to the degree to which the commodity is prevented from entering the country. Sometimes it happens that a low rate of tariff has a more restrictive effect on one commodity than a high rate of tariff on another commodity.

The Maginot Line was after all one of the many approaches to the problem of defence. The purpose of trade barriers is to protect domestic producers. To concentrate on the height of tariff walls is to pay disproportionate attention to the maginot line of protection. The preference for goods may be irrational in some cases. Where a particular commodity forms a component of a larger industry as in the case of batteries in motor cars, it often happens that even a 200 per cent. duty or a 300 per cent. duty might not be enough to sufficiently curtail imports into our country. Therefore, it may be necessary on such occasions for Government to have quotas imposed for the purpose of protecting indigenous industries and promoting industrial development. While we can agree that in these cases, there may be a strong case for having quotas and promoting industries, it is essential to remember that this enabling power should not be used in an indiscriminate manner. It is necessary to warn ourselves against an undue reliance on quotas. I am giving this warning because I feel that there is a tendency in certain sections of our industrial community to overstress the quota aspect, and to bring pressure on Government so that it might yield. There are other considerations which have to be taken into account. It is wise to have a giant's power, but wrong to use it indiscriminatorily. I would therefore ask Government to bear in mind that all this general principle of effective protection can be stretched too far to shut out imports. This power, if misused, would mean that not merely would the consumer's preferences be distorted—a factor which we would have to take into account—but our industrial development may be inhibited; we would be guided solely by the attractiveness to the producer;

there may be no incentive to improve quality, no particular urge to reduce costs. There will be a permanent inhibition on the growth of consumer demand and this in turn will inhibit the growth of our economy.

I wish Government would bear these facts in mind. I wish Government would realise that these quotas and licensing systems have a strong tendency to build up monopolies. When import licences are granted, they are granted to those who are already in the trade. New entrants are precluded from coming into the trade, and this in itself acts as a strong factor in favour of monopoly, a strong factor for strengthening monopolies in our trade.

Therefore, from the point of view of the community, there is a sort of a ceiling, as it were, placed on those who are already in the trade. While industrialists might gain, and few traders might also gain, who are already in business, a large number of new entrants are shut out. What are the safeguards which we have to bear in mind? I hope the hon. Minister in his reply will give us this assurance, that wherever possible quotas would be resorted to, only to protect the economy, and not made a permanent feature. Such safeguards can take various forms.

For instance, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry is having these quotas reviewed frequently, once every six months. It is valuable from the community's point of view. Early in 1953, my hon. friend liberalised quota imports by having "token quotas", which have had a salutary effect on many industries which were living in an atmosphere of cushioned ease. In all cases, where quota restrictions operate, there ought to be a dominant insistance on improvement in quality. Statistical quality control must be introduced and enforced with rigour. This can be secured by the adoption of high standards, and should any particular industry lag behind, there would be a *prima facie* case for reducing quotas or abolishing quotas.

I do not propose to consider the other aspects of G.A.T.T. which have been dealt with by my hon. friend the Minister of Commerce and Industry. But there is one particular aspect which demands reiteration. My hon. friend in his speech referred to foreign balances. Now, it might seem odd that at a time when we require capital, we should allow foreign balances to accumulate; it is as though we are lending abroad.

I invite his attention to an article which appeared recently in *The Capital*. There, a handsome tribute is paid to the Government for having achieved the objective of controlling inflationary urges in our economy. Government have succeeded in controlling inflation by liberalising import quotas. But in utilising foreign balances we have not been successful. In order that our country should be industrially developed, we should have more capital imports. Up till the present, we have not succeeded in reducing our balances because we have not been able to plan out our programme. However, once we start planning out our programme, it will be found that we would have to resort to quota restrictions in the interests of industrial development. From the point of veiw of industrial development of an under-developed country, foreign balances have this value that they can be utilised for promoting industrial development.

My hon. friend suggested that when countries become prosperous, there would be a greater amount of international trade and a lessening of barriers. I hope and trust that this will happen, though it is possible to be pessimistic on this matter; sometimes one finds that the most advanced and mature countries which should be expected to be more liberal in their export and import policies are often the victims of vested interests, which prevent lowering of barriers.

In the transitional period in which we are situated, in the period in which we are planning for economic

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development, I wish my hon. friend to bear in mind that ultimately it is economic development of our country that should be borne in mind, and only secondarily the development of industries or the interests of industrialists. If this is borne in mind, we would be in a better position to have a much more liberalised method of regulation of our economy, and also to promote a greater amount of economic development. Provided we are able to build on sound lines, we would have in the future an expanding trade; it would be to our interest to have expanding trade and also to lessen these restrictions. In fact, my hon. friend hinted in his introductory speech that there might come a time when quotas would be things of the past. I hope that this is not only an anticipation, but an assurance which he has given on behalf of Government. It would be a welcome assurance particularly in these days, when the consumer is forgotten and we are thinking in terms of protection of vested interests, the vested interests either of capital or of labour or of both.

Shri Bansal (Jhajjar—Rewari): I rise to associate myself with the amendment tabled by my hon. friend Shri V. B. Gandhi. I do so with some amount of diffidence, partly because I have been associated with the organisation which has been voicing its opposition to the Havana charter, and partly because I have been myself associated with the last two sessions of the G.A.T.T. where the revision which we are considering today was effected. I would not like to go into the history of the G.A.T.T. and the Havana charter, because that has already been done so very ably by the hon. Minister. I would also not like to go into the broader aspects of the policy regarding import trade control, as has been done by my hon. friend Dr. Krishnaswami. I would confine myself to pointing out to the House what was it that led me to change my attitude towards G.A.T.T.

The most consistent criticism that has been levelled against G.A.T.T. and its precursor, the Havana charter, has come from the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry. I must admit frankly that I had not a little to do with that criticism. The criticism of the Federation on the Havana charter, a number of provisions of which were incorporated in the G.A.T.T., was on these four grounds: firstly, that supernational regimentation of domestic and economic policies would be certain to go against the interests of under-developed countries in the world at present—that was one reason why the Federation was opposing the Havana charter; secondly, that all the members, irrespective of their stage of development or needs are expected to live up to a uniform commercial code; thirdly that although the charter is primarily concerned with foreign trade as well as domestic employment, greater emphasis has been placed on the former whereas it is only through development of under-developed countries that international trade can increase; and fourthly, an under-developed country like India will have to approach the I.T.O. for permission in almost every case of development of indigenous industry.

Now, I will try to answer as to what extent these four points of criticism have been met by the recent revision. Before I come to the revised G.A.T.T., I would also like to point out that in the 8th session of the G.A.T.T. which was held in October 1953, where I happened to have the honour of being one of the representatives of the Government of India, a comprehensive discussion took place as to the lines on which G.A.T.T. should be reviewed. Even at that time, the stand that the delegation of the Government of India took was that unless the G.A.T.T. was revised in certain major respects, it would not be possible for the Government of India to continue to adhere to the provisions of G.A.T.T. But as G.A.T.T. was not being revised in that year, our

delegation remained satisfied with certain assurances that were given, namely, in case we had any difficulties with regard to the items on which we had given a binding, and we approached the organisation, we would be given a proper hearing and our case would be disposed of expeditiously. It was as a result of that understanding, which was embodied in a resolution of the conference, that the Government of India agreed to allow the binding to be extended till the middle of this year, that is, 1955. It was also decided that a comprehensive review and revision of G.A.T.T. should take place in the 9th session, that is, the 1954 session. In that session, as you know, the major item, was the revision of G.A.T.T. The hon. Minister of Commerce and Industry has referred to two main provisions which have been revised, more or less, to meet the requirements of countries like India, and also, incidentally, to meet the criticism of a body like the Federation. Now, although the Minister has pointed out as to what are the changes that have been made in article XVIII—which deals with government assistance to economic development—I would like you to consider this in slightly greater detail, as to what are the exact points where we have gained our point of view. As you know, the existing provisions of G.A.T.T. that is, articles XII and XIII and also article XVIII, do give some liberty and freedom to countries to use quantitative restrictions in case of balance of payments difficulties. But our stand was that for the underdeveloped countries, like India, it is not enough that quantitative restrictions should be allowed to be used only for balance of payments difficulties. This was for two reasons; one was that it might be that in a particular year or over a period of years, we may really not have balance of payments difficulties—as you know, it actually happened during the last three or four years that we really did not have much of balance of payments difficulties; actually we were adding to our sterling resources with H.M.G. The other point was that although we might not like to use any quantitative restrictions in most of our cases, yet there were certain instances of certain industries where countries like India could not do without quantitative restrictions. What are those cases? We analysed this situation in the Ministry and we found out that there were certain groups of industries which were really not amenable to high tariffs. For example, take the case of machinery and capital goods. If you impose high duties on the import of machinery and capital goods, all that you do is to help in pushing up the price of the end-product which uses that particular machinery or capital. Therefore, if you apply high import duties in order to check the imports of your machinery, then all that you do is to succeed in pushing up the price to the ultimate consumer of the consumer goods produced from that capital goods industry. The other set of items are raw materials. As you know, we are recently beginning to manufacture some raw materials, for example, caustic soda or soda ash or a number of semi-manufactured items which again enter into the manufacture of the end-product. If you restrict their import by a high tariff, then again you push up the price for the ultimate consumer. There was a third set of items, where there is a large degree of consumer prejudice. For example, take the case of motor cars. A large-size motor car costs about Rs. 10,000 in America; here it costs about Rs. 19,000. But there may be rich people who may not mind paying even higher duties in order to have the luxury of those imported foreign cars. There is a large number of other such items where again the consumer prejudice is so high that the consumer would rather like to pay a slightly higher price than use the indigenous product. Therefore, we thought that although it might not be our policy to use quantitative restrictions for giving a general, blanket protection to our industries, even so there was a large number of items where we would have to use this

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particular method for developing our industries. So when we went to Geneva, we wanted to ensure that in whatever manner the provisions were redrafted we at least got the freedom to protect our industries by this particular method. We were in search of a formula so that we could cover these particular categories. I must admit that we failed to cover these particular categories in one all-embracing formula, and even if we succeeded, there were other countries who said: 'While this particular formula meets with the particular case of India, it does meet the case of, say, Brazil or Chile or some other under-developed country'. Therefore, we were thrown back to this general clause—XVIII—where we had to try to fit in this quantitative restriction, and I must say that we did succeed to a large measure. What we have done here is that we have said that if in certain cases for the purposes of development, the use of quantitative restriction is necessary, normally it will be allowed for balance of payments difficulties. That is covered in section B. Now, supposing a country does not have balance of payments difficulties—there may be some countries; perhaps the South American countries are some, where they do not apprehend balance of payments difficulties for some years—in that case, what happens? Then we have drafted section C of article XVIII, where it is said that if a contracting party wants to use this particular method of protection, all that it has to do is to notify the contracting parties that it wants to use quantitative restrictions for the development and establishment of a particular industry. Now, there was some argument on the question of 'promote the establishment of a particular industry'. The wording here is:

> "If a contracting party coming within the scope of paragraph 4(a) of this article finds that governmental assistance is required to promote the establishment of a particular industry with a view to raising the general standard of living of its people, but that no measure consistent with the other provisions of this agreement is practicable to achieve that objective, it may have recourse to the provisions and procedures set out in this section."

Now, there was argument as to what is meant by 'to promote the establishment of a particular industry'. Does it rule out expansion of a particular industry? It might be said that India is having some sort of dyestuff industry; will we be allowed to use quantitative restrictions for developing and promoting an industry like the dyestuff industry? There was a lot of argument over this, and although this particular section does not specify that promotion and establishment of a particular industry covers the development of an established industry, in the working party report which is contained in the third supplement to the basic document, it has been made clear that the establishment of particular industries would include the cases of substantial expansion of an existing industry supplying a relatively small portion of the domestic demand. Therefore, although the wording of the article does not make it clear the supporting document makes it absolutely clear that this particular restriction we will be able to apply not only for the promotion of the establishment of a particular industry but also for the development of an existing industry.

My friend Shri Gurupadaswamy said something about retaliatory measures. Retaliation may come in one of the following ways. Suppose India uses quantitative restrictions on a particular commodity which is being supplied to our country by, say, country 'X'; and by our imposing quantitative restriction that country feels aggrieved and says "by this quantitative restriction you have put a stop to our major export to your country". Then that country can take one of these steps. First, as soon as India has approached the contracting

parties, that country can approach the contracting parties and say, "India has come to you with this request which is going to be harmful to my country's interests". Therefore, it will be for the contracting parties to tell India to use some other method. But if India says "We have no other means of protecting this particular industry of ours and we must have this particular measure", then India will be free to apply that measure. As far as retaliation is concerned, that country may take whatever step it likes. But at the same time India again has a right to approach the contracting parties telling them that "the particular measure that has been adopted by the opposite country is more harmful to the interests of our country", and the contracting parties will again question that country and try to arrive at a mutually agreeable solution.

In this connection I would like the House to have a glimpse of what happens before the contracting parties, that is in the main conference. When we meet in the main conference and sit round the table, various countries come with their complaints against various other countries. They say: in this particular year which we are reviewing, America, for example, has put a ban on the import of certain articles of agricultural origin; they have subsidised the exports of citrus fruit. Then the contracting parties ask the American representative to explain their step. The representative comes forward and says: 'yes, we had to take this particular step, but we are sorry we had to do it; in any case my Government is reviewing this position and we hope to come with a cleaner slate next year before the conference." This is the type of spirit that prevails in the conference, and by this kind of mutual give and take these problems are settled to the mutual advantage of all the countries concerned.

So what we are actually doing by this GATT is that we are creating an international forum where the various kinds of rivalries in international trade are given free vent to and are freely discussed, so that the countries can come forward with their complaints and the other countries with their justifications or ultimately with assurances that they will not take the steps that they have been taking all along. You will be surprised that even a country like Czechoslovakia which has its special difficulties on account of its state trading went satisfied from the last Session of the GATT.

Shri Velayudhan (Quilon-*cum*-Mavelikkara—Reserved Sch. Castes): Why Russia and China have not come in?

Dr. Krishnaswami: They wanted to come in but there were some difficulties.

Shri Bansal: As far as Czechoslovakia is concerned she is a member and this is what happened. Yugoslavia sent an observer delegate to the last Session of the Conference and regarding Russia I am reading from the International Trade Unions Bulletin:

> "As far as Russia is concerned, the Soviet Union delegate in the Plenary Session of the Economic and Social Council on 14th July declared that the Soviet Union was prepared to join the International Trade Organisation proposed in the Havana Charter. He explained that the Soviet Union wished to use the United Nations as a forum to reconcile actions of nations in regard to the United Nations Charter."

I hope that it will be no distant date when the Soviet Union will also be a member of the GATT.

I was trying to explain as to in what particular manner this objection of the commercial community of the country at large has been met after the recent revision of the GATT.

As regards the supera-national regimentation of the policies of the countries in the field of international trade, I must say that this particular Agreement is not so straight-jacketted and

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so rigid as the Havana Charter. In fact, this Agreement is not much more than giving a body of rules to see that the bilateral negotiations which are entered into between various countries and which are given multilateral scope are worked out in a spirit in which they are arrived at. These various rules which you find in the GATT are more or less incidental and really not basic to those bilateral negotiations. In any case, they do not go as far as the provisions of the Havana Charter. So, that argument also is met by the provisions of the GATT.

Sir, may I request you to give me some more time? I do not think there are many more speakers except two or three and there is yet time.

Mr. Chairman: Not on this basis, that there are not many more speakers anxious to participate. The hon. Member is making his points. I will not stand between him and his remaining arguments. I will request him to go on.

Shri Bansal: Thank you, Sir.

My friends referred to equal access to world's raw materials. The very fact that the Havana Charter came into being was because we had left the days of equal access to raw materials far behind. The cry for equal access to raw materials was born after the first world war. But, when the second war was going on, and the Atlantic Charter was conceived, the demand was not for equal access to raw materials but for full employment. This idea of full employment finds a place in the preamble of the GATT and now in Article I of the revised GATT.

An Hon. Member: Havana Charter also.

Shri Bansal: Yes, the Havana Charter also.

I will read Article I. It says:

> "That contracting parties recognise that their relations in the field of trade and economic endeavour should be conducted with a view to raising the standards of living, ensuring full employment and a large and steadily growing volume of real income and effective demand, developing the full use of the resources of the world and expanding the production and exchange of goods and promoting the progressive development of the contracting parties."

Therefore, I would very humbly suggest that the GATT has very little to do with the outmoded slogan of equal access to raw materials. But, what I would like to suggest here is that the GATT will be worked now in a manner that the demand of the backward countries for equal access to technical know-how will also be met side by side with the development of the economies of the countries.

Shri Velayudhan: Is it given?

Shri Bansal: I am making a suggestion, but it is implicit in maintaining a high level of employment.

I am glad my friend, Shri Basu, did not return to his hobby horse of imperial preferences and I would not like to refer to that aspect in great detail. But some studies have been made on that aspect of the question also, and I am glad to say that the results have been, and they are, mostly attributable to the GATT, that the imperial preferences have now been reduced by about a half. I think that is a great gain and the general tendency now is for gradual elimination of imperial preferences. In this connection I would like to suggest to the hon. Minister of Commerce and Industry to undertake another study as to how imperial preferences have worked—whether they have worked in India's favour or against her. I know the Commerce and Industry Ministry conducted a survey and came to certain conclusions, but I think that was done about two or three years back. It might be

that if a survey is undertaken now, the results may be slightly different, particularly because now we do not get preferences in Pakistan, we do not get them in Burma and even Australia gives us preferences only on a few items, particularly textiles, and that too on a bilaterally negotiated basis and also because it is quite likely that our trade with some of the countries in South-East Asia is perhaps under a handicap on account of the fact that most of our imports are through Singapore, where, of course, they get preferences but not to other countries of South-East Asia, particularly Indonesia, Indo-China and other countries in this region. Therefore, it may be that a more thorough enquiry into the effects of imperial preferences will lead to certain different conclusions, and if that is so, I am sure the Government of India will not hesitate to present their case for a more rapid elimination of imperial preferences than they have been doing so far through the process of the GATT.

With regard to certain items on which we still are having binding, I know that provision has also been liberalised, and if we care to approach the contracting parties, we are bound to get releases more expeditiously. I think the time has come when a thorough revision of the list must be undertaken and the Government of India should vigorously pursue the items for which we have to seek releases from bindings of this nature. I know the difficulties inherent in that, because recently we tried to seek releases on some items, notably, coaltar dyes, glass beads, false pearls, razor blades and wines, and in return we had to give concession on so many items—certain plastic raw materials and certain raw materials used in the manufacture of small tools, including high speed alloys and special alloy steel. I think this concession was given in return for our release from ball bearings. It is likely that, though we are not producing these items now, we will begin to manufacture both these items in the very near future. Certain plastic raw materials we will have to produce if our coaltar distillation industry develops; similarly, as soon as our steel industry develops for which there are ambitious programmes, we will also begin to produce tool steel. So, this difficulty of having to give equivalent concessions, I know, is there. I think Government of India will have to do some magic trick in getting out of the obligations that have been entered into when we became a member of the GATT. I know it is a very difficult task but at the same time I do hope that with the sympathy that countries like India have in the International GATT Conference and also with the ability with which the leaders of our delegations have been successfully conducting their negotiations, we will be able to get out of these difficulties.

I will be failing in my duty if I do not refer to the work done by the leaders of the Indian delegation in the last two conferences. The leader in the 8th session was our hon. friend Shri Karmarkar and in the 9th session it was Shri Raghavan Pillai. But after the preliminary meetings the main burden of leading the Indian Delegation to the last session fell on the shoulders of Shri L. K. Jha who I must say received so many encomiums from all the sides of the House that it made not only him but all his colleagues blush. You will be gald to know that even though our leader was studiously keeping himself back from assuming the leadership of the under-developed countries, it willy-nilly fell to the shoulders of that Indian Delegation and we found that after our intervention at the GATT conference all the under-developed countries among which list are included the countries like Brazil, Chile, and certain other countries of equal importance came over to the Indian delegation and said in effect that they would rather like to place their cases in the hands of the Indian Delegation. This is no small tribute to the leader of our Delegation. I would only end by expressing the hope that when such opportunities present themselves our delegation

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would not hesitate but would continue to give the type of leadership which is demanded of it.

I have only one last word. I wish the printing of this White Paper was as good and as satisfactory as the performance of the delegation. I find there are a large number of printing mistakes. It may be that it is on account of the fact that this was printed in a great hurry because the idea was to take it up in the last session of the Parliament. I also hope that the performance of the Government of India in the implementation of the GATT will be even more satisfactory.

Mr. Chairman: Shri Gandhi.

Shri Kamath: Let us have a quorum for a change. There is no quorum in the House. The eye estimate is 35.

Mr. Chairman: The bell is rung. Now there is quorum. The hon. Member may proceed.

5 P.M.

Shri V. B. Gandhi: The motion I have moved reads as follows:

> "This House having considered the White Paper on the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, approves of the revised Agreement and the policy followed by the Government in relation thereto."

Let me at the outset say that about this subject of GATT many of us do not know very much. An eminent economist, the other day, when asked to say a few words on GATT said GATT is one of the subjects on which he knows very little. That exemplifies the general ignorance that prevails on this subject and some of us in this House are no exception. We, therefore, welcome this White Paper as well as other documents which give a lucid analysis of tariff concessions exchanged by India with other contracting parties. I must also say that the speech of the Minister for Commerce and Industry was very helpful. It was a very full and comprehensive speech and it explained the implications of many of the new articles in the GATT as it has emerged from this last Review Conference. He has also shown how the mechanism of GATT works and also how the interests of India have been affected or served by India's participation in GATT.

Now, although there is such a prevailing ignorance about the work of GATT, GATT has still been carrying on its work unobtrusively, laboriously and patiently for over seven years and today this achievement of GATT represents as many as 123 international agreements negotiated and completed on the principle of reciprocity. I think this is the one single vast area of agreement in recent history in any field and particularly in the field of trade and commerce. This work or this achievement of GATT also represents individual consideration given by contracting parties to as many as 45,000 items. Such is the scope and magnitude of the work that GATT has accomplished. And, yet, how is it that so little is known about this work? Perhaps, it is due to the fact that GATT has not used the big drum.

May I also, here, say a word about this excellent brochure which has been brought out by the Lok Sabha Secretariat. It has been brought out in a great hurry in a short time, and it was distributed to us yesterday even though yesterday was a Sunday. Mention may be made here of the good work that has been done by our enthusiastic Secretary, Shri M. N. Kaul, in producing this brochure at such a short notice.

Many of us want to know exactly how India has come out of its participation in GATT. In other words, what has she gained or how have we been affected? Again, in this case, this can be measured only in terms of how many or how much of our goods have received tariff concessions in other countries as compared to the

tariff concessions granted by this country on goods of other countries. Here, briefly, is the result. Our exports that went to other countries received tariff concessions in 1948-49, on a sum of Rs. 99,69,00,000. That is, our goods received tariff concessions on our exports of that value. In the same year, we granted concessions on goods imported into India to an extent of Rs. 89,85,00,000. Then, in 1952-53, our goods exported to other countries received tariff concessions on our exports of Rs. 155,42,00,000 as compared to concessions granted by us on imports of the value of Rs. 94,28,00,000. In 1953-54 the position was that our exports of the value of Rs. 134,92,00,000 received tariff concessions in other countries, whereas we granted concessions in India on imports of Rs. 89,30,00,000. So, the figures for the last year are, we received concessions on exports of the value of Rs. 134,92,00,000 as compared to the concessions granted by us on Rs. 89,30,00,000. Of course, it is not to be assumed that in rupees, annas and pies, the actual concessions or amounts received would be in any way comparable.

Now, war always destroys things of economic value to the community, and a total war destroys these things on a total scale. We all remember what an amount of misery, what an amount of distortion and economic dislocation, suffering and unemployment was experienced after the first world war in many countries of the world. We also remember the tragic inflations in Germany, Austria and Russia, where their currencies were reduced almost to worthlessness. We also remember, with a sense of relief, how after the second world war which was a total war and which led to total destruction, we have been saved from some of those experiences. At least our experiences have not been so tragic or so widespread and I believe that our escape from these miseries and experiences is partly due to the fact that we had taken care to set up in advance institutions like the International Monetary Fund and also like the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. Both these institutions really are complementary to each other, or at least they should be made complementary to each other. They really are two faces of the same coin, two sides of the same shield. The hon. Minister, while explaining the relationship or the prospective relationship between these institutions, pointed to some difficulties. These difficulties, it should be the task of experts to tackle. But we know that in the interests of the community as a whole and in the interests of the future of the economies of all the countries, it is essential that these two institutions should come to some basis of joint work.

Almost every Member who spoke before me has said something good about the good work done by our representatives, by the team that went out as the Indian delegation to the Geneva Conference. I would say that they have fully deserved the praise that has been bestowed upon them but it was not all soft work for them. What exactly is it that they have achieved? One of their outstanding achievements, I would say, was the recognition that they have gained or they have achieved, or the special needs of countries which can support only low standards of living, countries whose economy is in an early stage of development. This could not be very easily achieved. Our representatives stood firm; they fought battles and it is after a great heroic effort that they have achieved this recognition for underdeveloped countries.

GATT, like any other international organisation, has to deal with all kinds of threats and dangers to its existence. It will be easily recognised that where so many countries meet with their individual interests, it is wrong to expect that there shall be an identity of interests of all of them. Therefore, with these divergent interests, threats and dangers not only to the future of GATT, but even to the smooth working of GATT at the present time, do come in. To mention briefly, here are some of the facts of which account must be taken by those

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who are interested in the future efficient working of GATT. Among these facts, I would mention as the biggest one, the accumulating and mounting surplus of farm products in the United States, and a way has to be found for its disposal. Of course, a way has been found, by a certain decision, I understand, and I hope it will work satisfactorily.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member's time is up. He has already taken 15 minutes.

Shri V. B. Gandhi: May I have another 5 or 10 minutes?

Mr Chairman: He can have another 5 minutes; there are other speakers also.

Shri V. B. Gandhi: Thank you.

Of course, there is the existence of a very influential section in the United States of people with a protectionist bias. The Randell Commission's report is an indication. In this connection, we shall only hope that the heroic effort of the President of the United States to put through some liberal ideas on trade and tariffs to the Congress will succeed. Then, there are other threats, minor ones like the American attempt to give subsidies to their export of citrus fruits, etc. There are also other threats like all kinds of complications put in the way of assessment of values for *ad valorem* duties. These are other ways of frustrating or getting over the principles of the G.A.T.T. I hope that better counsels will prevail with them.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam): May I point out, Sir, that there is no quorum in the House?

Shri Kamath: The quorum has fallen flat. Every day this is the trouble we are experiencing.

Mr. Chairman: The bell is being rung.

Shri Lakshmayya (Anantapur): It is very difficult and disgusting to sit after 5 o'clock. It is not possible even to hear calmly and coolly.

Mr. Chairman: Now there is quorum. Then hon. Member Shri V. B. Gandhi may continue.

Shri V. B. Gandhi: I shall not deal with the new features which have been incorporated in the GATT as it has emerged from the recent Conference, for, the hon. Minister in his speech has very fully explained these new features. I shall just make a reference to a statement by Shri K. K. Basu. He quoted a passage from Prof. K. T. Shah on National Planning. In the days when Prof. K. T. Shah wrote that passage, anything like the GATT was not known. Organisations like the International Monetary Fund or the GATT are developments of the postwar era. They are things which were almost undreamt of earlier and it is rather not very helpful to quote what Prof. K. T. Shah wrote in 1935 in passing judgment on the GATT. One of the great achievements of the recent conference is, of course, the decision to set up the OTC—Organisation for Trade Cooperation. We would all, of course, have liked to Charter accepted by the countries of the world, and the present GATT is a far cry from the ITO, and yet I think it is part of wisdom sometimes to accept less than the best.

This OTC, as far as we can see from the brief reports that are available to us, has been very well designed. It is going to give representation to all elements, elements such as countries representing various stages of economic development as well as territorial elements. This representation will be given both in the executive committee as well as in the staff or the personnel of the secretariat and the staff of the Director-General.

Shri Basu complained that this GATT is a body dominated by the United States. I do not see how we can quarrel over it, because we have to take the world as it is and in this world today, economically speaking,

the United States does have a dominant position. Unless we can re-shape the world to suit our own liking, we have to accept the world as it is and work with it to the best advantage possible.

Finally, we are all here in this House for freer payments based on convertible currencies, freer trade, wider trade based on non-discriminating tariffs and that today is the new economic thinking on the subject. We are glad that the Government has lined India on the side of this new economic thinking. Whatever has been done by them, by our representatives in Geneva and by way of action taken by the Government in implementing the GATT agreements, of course, makes a very creditable record.

With these words, I commend my motion to the acceptance of the House.

Shri Kasliwal (Kotah-Jhalawar): Before I speak on the provisions of the new agreement, I want to reply to certain points which have been raised from that side. For example, Shri Basu asked in what way India had benefited by its membership of the GATT. He should have really confined himself more to the new provisions of the GATT rather than go into the entire history of our membership of the GATT.

My hon. friend Shri Gandhi has just now given certain figures from 1948-49 right up to 1953-54 and he has pointed out how India has benefited by its membership of the GATT. I do not want to repeat those figures. I only want to mention another and the latest figure which we have for 1955. In that year, we successfully negotiated for the modification of certain concessions granted by us to certain countries in respect of certain items which were already bound. The concessions which we got were to the tune of Rs. 5,39,00,000. In return, we gave certain compensatory concessions; and those compensatory concessions amounted to only Rs. 1 crore. So, you will see how India has in this way continued to benefit by its membership of the GATT.

My hon. friend Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy raised two points, and I want to reply to them. First of all he referred to export subsidies. Unfortunately, the hon. Minister did not mention about it in detail in his speech, and that is why perhaps my hon. friend Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy had not understood how the new Agreement had dealt with export subsidies. Under article XVI of the new Agreement, from the 1st of January 1958, export subsidies have been abolished. The Agreement says that it recognises that these export subsidies unduly interfere with international trade, and therefore they must cease. Besides, in respect of primary products also, this article says that no country will be permitted to grant export subsidies except in so far as it does not go beyond its equitable share in world export trade.

The second point that my hon. friend Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy referred to was about the Havana charter and the GATT. Probably he does not know that the Havana charter came up for a severe review in the Fiscal Commission which was appointed by Government in 1949-50. The Fiscal Commission went into some great details about the provisions of the charter, and several criticisms were levelled against it. Two of these were as follows; firstly, that it was not possible for countries which were in various stages of development, including under-developed countries to conform to a uniform commercial code, and secondly that greater emphasis had been laid on foreign trade, to the comparative neglect of the measures required for the development of under-developed countries. The Fiscal Commission were of the opinion that the Havana charter should not be ratified unless two important countries, namely the U.S.A. and the U.K. had ratified it, and secondly unless the economic conditions in this country required or justified such ratification. So, the question of

[Shri Kasliwal]

the Havana charter, so far as the GATT is concerned, does not arise.

The hon. Minister has already traced the history of the GATT right from the charter, and of how the charter remained unratified, and how at eighth session it was decided that there should be a review of the GATT in the light of the experience gained in its seven years of provisional operation, and an examination of the desirability of amending or supplementing its existing provisions and the arrangements of its administration.

After the ninth session was over, a communique was issued. That communique reaffirmed the basic objectives of the Agreement, adopted the provisions of the Agreement to meet changed conditions, and elaborated the objectives and the structure of an organisation to administer the Agreement. Three main results have emerged from this communique. Firstly, for the first time a new and a permanent body has been established to administer the GATT. This body is now known as the Organisation of Trade Co-operation. You will remember that the Havana charter wanted to form a body known as the International Trade Organisation. But with the non-ratification of the charter, that body completely disappeared. With the coming into force of the new body, this new body will take over the entire administration of the GATT, which is at present being carried on by the secretariat of the GATT.

Several objections have been raised in regard to this new body. One of the objections is that the new Organisation of Trade Co-operation has not been clothed with any positive authority with which the old International Trade Organisation was being clothed. Secondly, it has been said that this is nothing but a new version of the present secretariat of the GATT.

Now, so far as these two objections are concerned, it must be remembered that first of all, the OTC is a permanent body. Secondly, it has not been possible to get a better arrangement from those countries which are protectionist in their attitude. So it has to be admitted that under the circumstances as are obtaining, the OTC is a body which should be welcomed.

I need not go into the constitution, structure and functions of the OTC. They have already been given in the White Paper which has been supplied to us. The second point which has emerged from these discussions is this. My hon. friend, Shri Bansal, mentioned that the tariff truce had been extended up to the 30th June 1955. In the 9th session, the tariff truce has been extended from the 1st of July 1955 to the 31st December 1957. Now, this is a great achievement. Supposing, this tariff truce had not been extended, then there was a possibility of a kind of a grim tariff war and the result would have been that the entire world trade would have been thrown into a state of chaos. I must say that the extension of the tariff truce is a great achievement to the credit of the 9th session.

In this connection, I would also like to mention about a new principle which has been established for the revision of the tariff schedules, which was agreed to at the 9th session. This new principle would promote the automatic extension of the assured life of the tariff schedules in the future by periods of three years. It was also provided that a contracting party could re-negotiate during the bound period the bound rates of duty, if those modifications or withdrawals were considered necessary.

Then there is another point to which I would refer. Hon. Members have dealt—and dealt extensively—with the amendments which have taken place in the body of the GATT. Hon. Mem-

bers have drawn attention primarily to article XVIII. Article XVIII has been extensively quoted by the hon. Minister and I do not want to go into detail about it. But what does it really mean, as it has been amended? It means three main things. First of all, for the establishment of a particular industry, certain flexibility in the matter of tariff structures for imposing quantitative restrictions has been accepted. Secondly, there has been a conservation of foreign exchange so far as the balance of payments position is concerned. Thirdly, even though a country is not in balance of payments difficulties, even then, if it is a country with a low standard of living and is in the early stage of development, it could apply quantitative restrictions. The leader of our delegation, while speaking at the conference, said that it was his wish that principles of fair trading should be established. I do maintain that with the acceptance of these three provisions in article XVIII, the principles of fair trading have been established, and I very much welcome these three provisions.

On other articles, I do not want to give much thought. But there is one article—article I. Shri Bansal mentioned it, but he has not drawn particular attention to that article, which has now recently been modified. With the inclusion of the words "the progressive development of the economies of all the contracting parties", a new objective has now been introduced into the GATT. It was previously not there. It was now, for the first time, realised that the object of the GATT is not merely foreign trade, not merely a reduction of tariff structures, but it is equally the business of the GATT to see that under-developed countries are also well developed.

There are other provisions of the GATT, but I do not want to go into them. I only want to refer to article XXVIII in which it has been said that even though the bound duties would be for a period of three years, contracting parties would be welcome to negotiate for reduction of tariff structures under the GATT either by product-by-product basis or by multilateral procedures.

I have already referred to article XVI. The hon. Minister mentioned something about the GATT and the International Monetary Fund. I am myself unable to understand how far the linking of these two things is going to take place. But I understand that at the GATT meeting a resolution had been passed in which it was said that they would welcome the flow of capital from highly developed countries to countries which are undeveloped, but they made two conditions that in such respects there should be security for the capital and, secondly, that there should be adequate provision for interest and for profits and other things to be returned to those countries from where the capital comes. I do not know what the attitude of the Government is so far as this particular resolution is concerned. But if it is a question of linking the GATT with the International Monetary Fund, I am sure the hon. Minister will give good thought to it.

I do not want to go into other details. I heartily support this.

Mr. Chairman: Shri Viswanatha Reddy.

Shri Viswanatha Reddy (Chittoor): Sir,.....

Shri Kamath: We might adjourn; there is no quorum. There is frequent lack of quorum which is becoming. We may adjourn today.

Mr. Chairman: It appears there is not enough attendance in the House and there is no quorum. This is the third time. I am having the bell rung.

The House took the decision that it would sit till six, but I do not find there is enough attendance.

Shri Amjad Ali (Goalpara-Garo Hills): The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is in difficulty to collect Members.

Shri Kamath: I find the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs moving to his seat. I think he is going to make a statement.

Mr. Chairman: I am considering that. I may adjourn the House as there is little hope of securing quorum at this late hour.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Shri Kamath: For three times in less than an hour there has been lack of quorum today. Now again there is no quorum. The suggestion was made that the House might adjourn and meet tomorrow, and the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs agrees, by tacit consent.

Shri Amjad Ali: He is in difficulty in collecting Members.

Shri S. N. Das (Darbhanga Central): It will be better if the names of those who are present are recorded.

Shri Bogawat (Ahmednagar South): There are only six Members of the Opposition.

Shri T. N. Singh (Banaras Distt.—East): It is a question of joint responsibility; nothing like individual responsibility.

Shri Kamath: It is better to extend the Session by a week rather than each day's sitting by an hour. Even the galleries are empty, except the Press Gallery.

It is more than five minutes now, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Including myself there are forty-three. Two more have come in. There are forty-five now.

I am sorry. There being no quorum I adjourn the House.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, the 20th September, 1955.